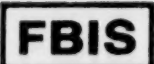


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3 February 1982

Near East/North Africa Report

No. 2480



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3 February 1982

NEAR EAST/NORTH AFRICA REPORT

No. 2480

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INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

WIDENING IRAQ-JORDAN COOPERATION--Economic cooperation between Jordan and Iraq is taking steps in depth which encompass the various sectors in the two countries by means of implementing joint plans. After the organization of the joint Land Transport Co. and the achievements of the Iraqi-Jordanian Air Freight Co., a contract was recently signed in Amman to establish the Jordanian-Iraqi Manufacturing Company. Jordan recently obtained an Iraqi loan valued at 58 million dinars (\$175 million) to finance the implementation of a number of economic expansion programs which the Jordanian government intends to carry out. The joint Jordanian-Iraqi committee which met recently in Amman under the leadership of Mudhir Badran, prime minister of Jordan, and Taha Yasin Ramadan, member of the Revolutionary Command Council and vice president of the Council of Ministers from the Iraqi side, demonstrated its satisfaction with the achievements it has realized in the past phase in the area of consolidating cooperation. [Text] [London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic No 1307, 20 Nov 81 p 59] 9397

REAL ESTATE INVESTMENTS--Real estate deals still take the lead in most investment activities in the Arab world. Observations of the activities of the Kuwait stock exchange last October, which reached a volume of 128 million dinars (around \$450 million), reveal that real estate investments headed this activity with 34 percent, valued at 44 million dinars, followed by bank shares at 35 million dinars with 24 percent. This was followed by shares in transportation companies valued at 16 million dinars with 12 percent of the total, then investment companies valued at 14 million dinars with 11 percent, and finally shares in industrial companies valued at 10 million dinars. [Text] [London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic No 1307, 20 Nov 81 p 59] 9397

CSO: 4404/157

MINISTER URGES REDUCED COTTON PRODUCTION TO BRING OPTIMUM REVENUE

Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 6 Dec 81 p 9

[Article by Ahmad al-'Attar: "Are 1 Million Feddans of Cotton Enough; Dr Sulayman Nur al-Din: 1 Million Feddans Are Fully Adequate to Meet Needs of Local Industry and of Exportation; Increased Cotton Exports Drop Cotton Prices; Cultivating Part of Cotton Acreage With Other Crops Will Yield Higher Revenues"]

[Text] For many years, cotton has been and continues to be the main Egyptian crop. The world knows this cotton for its excellent quality and for its long staple. Its annual exports represent for Egypt a big revenue that contributes to meeting our needs. But recently, the cotton crop has been exceeding the needs of local industry and the export demand, and it has become necessary to define the position toward Egyptian cotton production and toward the proper acreage to be cultivated with cotton.

The latest cotton statistics show that the area cultivated with cotton this year totaled 1,178,000 feddans, which produced 10.3 million qintars. The Ministry of Economy is demanding that cotton cultivation be reduced in 1982 to only 1 million feddans, whose production will be enough to meet local industry and export needs.

Dr Sulayman Nur al-Din, the minister of state for economy, says that the annual needs for Egyptian cotton amount to nearly 5.5 million qintars for local industry and nearly 3.5 million qintars to meet the export demands, meaning that the total annual cotton requirement is nearly 9 million qintars. Despite this, current cotton production in Egypt exceeds these needs. Assuming that cotton exports will not exceed 3.5 million qintars this year, the stored cotton in the last two seasons is estimated at nearly 2.5 million qintars.

But Why Aren't Egypt's Cotton Exports Increased to Absorb More Production?

Dr Sulayman Nur al-Din says that the uses of Egyptian cotton are not flexible and are limited and specialized. Realizing a big increase in exports means selling Egyptian cotton at lower prices. If the sale price for 3.5 million qintars is 100 pounds per qintar, the revenue from this quantity will total 350 million pounds, meaning that the extra 1 million qintars in exports will yield 10 million pounds. If we estimate that these million qintars will require 120,000 feddans to be cultivated, then the revenue for this acreage will amount

to only 10 million pounds, whereas if cultivated with other crops, such as wheat, corn, or soybeans, this acreage will yield revenues of 120 million pounds. If we estimate the value of oil cake [used for animal fodder] and the oil that would be extracted from the cotton cultivated on this acreage and compare it with oil cake and the oil extracted from soybeans, we would find that the revenue from the oil cake and oil extracted from the cotton cultivated on this acreage would be nearly 20 million pounds more than the revenue from soybean oil cake and oil. If we add this sum to the 10 million pounds representing the revenue from increasing cotton exports by 1 million qintars, we find that this revenue amounts to 30 million pounds combined, whereas cultivating the 120,000 feddans with other crops will realize a revenue of nearly 120 million pounds. This means that the net economic yield from cultivating the 120,000 feddans with crops other than cotton will total 100 million pounds. The minister of state for economy stresses that this is why he is demanding that the acreage cultivated with cotton be reduced next year to 1 million feddans, which will yield a crop of nearly 9 million qintars, fully adequate to meet local industry and export needs. Moreover, Egypt is careful to sell its cotton to world markets at the highest prices. In just 3 weeks, contracts have been concluded for the sale of 400,000 bales of cotton in free currencies, whereas contracts were concluded for the sale of only 260 [as published] bales in free currencies throughout the past season.

In conclusion, the minister of state for economy asserts that he also supports expanded cultivation of the shorter staple American cottons in Egypt to meet the needs of local industry. These cottons are distinguished by their abundant crop and by the relatively short period they need to mature. This provides the opportunity for cultivating another crop [on the same acreage] during the same year.

8494

CSO: 4504/123

PROBLEMS, VIEWS, HOPES OF UNIVERSITY STUDENTS EXAMINED

Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 26-29 Oct 81, 1, 2, 4 Nov 81

[26 Oct 81 p 3]

[Article by Mahmud 'Arif, Rif'at Mahrus and 'Ali Mahir]

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has appealed to the men of al-Azhar and to the state agencies to instill in the youth a sense of loyalty to the homeland and of belonging to Egypt.

President Mubarak has also demanded that a firm stand be taken against radicalism and that radicals and devious people who exploit religion for ends totally unrelated to the tolerance of Islam and to the purity of the faith be confronted decisively.

The agencies in charge of youth welfare in the universities and schools and the Higher Youth and Sports Council have begun to move in every work site.

But what are the ideas on which this movement is based?

Will they continue to be conventional ideas that raise slogans, most of which fail to understand what the youth want?

The question raised now is: Are the youth experiencing one problem or a number of intricate problems? What are these problems and what are their priorities in terms of discussion and proposals for solutions?

Are youth problems embodied in:

The phenomenon of youth alienation and the feeling among the youth that they live in a society that doesn't try to understand and that cannot find the right line to reflect their thought, opinions and aspirations for the present and the future?

The spread of the phenomenon of violence and terror and youth acceptance of foreign currents that are alien to the values, traditions, principles and tolerant religion of society?

The absence of the "model" whose steps youth can follow in their daily life and of whose actions and words they can be proud?

The absence of student activity in the universities as a result of overcrowded auditoriums and classes and of the shortage of teaching faculty members and the presence of a gap between the student and the professor--a gap that has made youth join the radical groups that raise the slogan of religion to conceal behind it criminal tendencies of which religion is innocent?

Where does al-Azhar stand vis-a-vis these problems and can it manage a dialogue with youth to stress the true principles of Islam and show that Islam is a religion that rejects treachery, malice and destruction and brooks no excesses, deviation or exaggeration?

What has al-Azhar done vis-a-vis the currents that are destructive to society's values and traditions and to the tolerance of Islam?

More than a question is trying to surface in the discussions seeking to find a clear and frank answer.

Expanded Acceptance [Enrollment] Is Problem

In search of the reasons for the deviation of some youth from the right path and of the means to confront these problems, AL-AKHBAR has interviewed more than one university official.

To start with, Dr 'Abd al-Majid 'Uthman, president of Suez Canal University, believes that one of the significant problems facing the university and worthy of being confronted and tackled is the problem of the open-door policy and of extensive enrollment in the universities. Such enrollment requires big resources to perform the services that have come to be known as (academic) rights, including university towns, food and financial aid, at a time when the state budget is not adequate to meet the needs of the enormous number of students who enroll in the various educational units.

As a solution to this problem, Dr 'Abd al-Majid 'Uthman believes that the number of students accepted must be codified and that university enrollment must be on the basis of academic excellence, with the other students geared toward practical fields, such as agriculture, construction and building, in which the state experiences shortages of labor.

This codification is necessary to make it possible to establish direct and constant contact between the students on the one hand and the faculty members and instructors on the other to provide greater care for the student inside the university and in the study halls and to expand the system of student families that has proven to a large degree its suitability for dealing with many of the difficulties facing the students in their university life.

Moreover, participation by the students in academic activities, such as educational conferences and symposiums and meetings and contacts between students and [visiting] delegations, develops in the student a sense of leadership, self-confidence and the feeling that the student is a part of the university. In addition, student participation in environmental service projects develops in the student self-reliance and gives him greater confidence and broader field experience.

All these things establish mutual trust between the student and the instructor because the student needs care and attention so that he is not exploited for other things.

Where Does Youth Enthusiasm Go?

The student is enthusiastic and has ideals and values that he wants to realize. If he cannot realize them through the constitutional institutions or the university organizations, such as the student unions and the various student activities, he looks for other, illegal channels to realize his aspirations. It thus becomes easy to attract him to any devious activity. This is confirmed by Dr 'Abd al-Razzaq Hasan, president of Asyut University.

He [presumably Dr Hasan] adds: The radical groups have dominated athletic, social and art activities in recent years and have resorted to freezing these activities in order to realize their goals. Thus, the student has a latent energy that he cannot expend and it has become easy for the radical groups to channel this energy in the wrong direction.

At times, the uncertain future, insofar as work, housing and marriage are concerned, creates for some students psychological pressures that motivate them to take negative positions and to engage in radical and illogical actions.

If we view the relationship between the student and the instructor through family supervisors, we find that it is not as we would like it to be at present. This leads to lost confidence between the student and the instructor and, consequently, to a loss of the sublime ideal in values, conduct and thinking. All of this causes youth to follow imported and alien thinking.

The university president then devises a plan to deal with these problems. The solution is achieved by establishing the system of families and of academic supervisors firmly so that it becomes possible for these families and for the supervisors to correct the faulty concepts among the youth and to convince the student that there are rights and duties that he must perform and limits he must not exceed.

As for a fundamental solution to the youth problems, such a solution forces us to reexamine the concept of elementary, intermediate and secondary school education and to change this concept in a manner that serves the interests of the country in freedom from all emotions.

In its present condition, education is founded on giving information. A new system aimed at creating a good citizen in whom the educational aspect is compatible with the moral and ethical aspect must be founded.

Problems Begin From Childhood

The call for developing the early stages of education is received with great interest. These stages are the basis and the foundation and in them lies the real cure that makes it possible for the new generation to grow up armed with all the sound values.

This is stressed by Dr Yahya Shahin, president of al-Minya University, who believes that youth problems begin fundamentally in childhood. If the childhood is not sound, then we cannot demand sound youth.

In the past, the schools used to be alive with athletic, social, scouting and gardening activities. This is how a love of nature and of beauty and a sense of environmental preservation were developed in the youth. This was in addition to trips to familiarize the students with the archeological sites. So there was social and academic competition.

The president of al-Minya University asks: Does such activity exist at present?

Answering his own question, he says: Certainly not.

The absence of such activities affects the youth's psyche. This is why we must start with the childhood phase. We can judge youth by their upbringing. If the upbringing is sound then the youth are sound. Otherwise, the stem will remain crooked throughout life and it will be difficult to correct or straighten it.

A fundamental cure for all youth problems is embodied in devoting attention to kindergarten and elementary education, in supervising the educational curricula and recreational aspects and in establishing a relationship between the school and the family. The system of social advisors must be restored so that such advisors study society, diagnose any ailments developing in it and exert efforts to cure them immediately.

The president of al-Minya University agrees with the opinion that the phenomenon we are experiencing at present is the result of the fact that we opened our school to enrollment without streamlining the acceptance rules and that we have come to suffer from a tremendous increase of students without providing the resources necessary to deal with such numbers of students and without providing them with proper educational facilities. The policy has been a policy of large numbers and this is what has led us to the problems from which we suffer at present, problems that are intensifying year after year.

Is it possible or easy to retreat from the open-door policy?

Dr Kamilya 'Abd al-Fattah, director of the Childhood Studies Center of 'Ayn Shams University, supports the trend calling for emphasis on the childhood phase as an important prelude to the youth phase because a sound child will grow up to be a sound youth.

Teenage Period Deserves Attention

If attention to childhood is important and vital, then attention to the teen years is more urgent. This is asserted by Dr Mustafa Bahjat 'Abd al-Muta'al, president of al-Minufiyah University. This age begins with the university education phase. In this phase, religious awareness emerges and numerous questions are asked about religion. In the university education phase, the student moves from the phase of instructional education to the phase of free and independent education in which the student relies on his personal efforts to learn and achieve. In this phase, the student finds himself free to attend or not to attend a lecture, especially

since it is difficult to check absence and presence when such large numbers of students are involved. Therefore, the student finds that he has entered a new phase in which he needs guidance from the university, the family and society.

The university is co-educational and this is a new phenomenon to the student and one that is different from what the student has been accustomed to in the pre-university phase. This phenomenon exposes the student to a number of challenges that put him in the position of requiring guidance to face these challenges confidently and without being exposed to deviation.

The radical religious groups have exploited this situation and have attracted a number of students under the pretext of protecting society from ethical corruption.

Here, we must admit that there has been negligence in religious education in the preuniversity phase. With such vast numbers of students, the universities cannot make up for this deficiency, regardless of the religious preachers and advisors who can be employed to fill the religious vacuum. This situation requires that the subject of religion be reinstated in all the educational phases so that religion receives full attention and so that the student can be armed from childhood with the religious values that protect him from the attraction of the radical groups.

Information Media Also Responsible

If the school and university are responsible for implanting sound values in the hearts of the youth, then the information media must reexamine their programs so that they can cooperate in realizing the goal of building Egypt. There must be harmony in implanting the sound values. This is what Dr Salah Nayil, vice president of Hulwan University, demands.

Dr Nayil adds: The lack of discipline in numerous institutions and in the family itself is the true cause for the polarization of naive elements by the radical groups. Strong ties must be established in the family, in the school and in the university and student activities must be restored to their past condition so that they can fill the students' free time, especially during the summer holidays. Real work projects must also be established so that the youth can find himself and realize his ambitions through such projects.

Open-Door Policy Is Also a Cause

Dr Ahmad Surur, dean of the Foreign Trade and Business Management College, attributes the problems experienced by youth to several causes. Before the 15 May 1971 revolution, led by the late President Anwar al-Sadat, the youth suffered from the problems of custodianship, detention and guardianship and of getting travel permits to go abroad, meaning that the youth lived in a closed society controlled by the centers of power on the one hand and the communists on the other. That situation led the youth to resort to religion, but with extreme violence. The right advisor to lead the youth out of their perplexity did not exist then.

After the inception of the correction revolution, the youth lived under the climate of freedom enjoyed by the country and this climate encouraged some of them, who had not been accustomed to freedom, to misuse and abuse this freedom. Moreover,

groups opposing and criticizing everything came into existence just to affirm their presence.

Furthermore, the open-door economic policy started to create new classes and this created rancor among some youth toward the parasitic classes.

These youth did not have the material capability to live at the standard enjoyed by these classes and thus some of them went to excess in their religion as a way to deal with their problem or turned to crime and to political radicalism as a solution to this problem.

There is no problem for which there is no cure, asserts Dr Ahmad Surur, who says that what has happened can be tackled scientifically through a study designed to uncover the true motives that led the youth to this deviation and to define clearly the problems experienced by youth. Dr Surur also says that the youth who have deviated must be treated like drug addicts who are admitted to sanitariums by the state. In the light of such a study, a method for curing this problem can be proposed. This cure must consist of two parts: A short-term part to familiarize the youth with the study and to enlighten them so that they do not follow the false calls and a long-term cure embodied in dealing with the causes of this deviation.

Life Hardships Are Behind Problems

Dr Safiyah Abu 'Awf, dean of the Athletic Education College in al-Jazirah, Cairo, believes that a healthy family produces a healthy youth. If we look around us, we find that the Egyptian home suffers from numerous problems that prevent it from giving attention to the youth.

The concerns of life are numerous. The father is busy with his work and the mother has entered life [the work market] in order to be able to face the burdens of living. Therefore, the family doesn't have enough time to care for the children. This is why we find that some of them have strayed.

The Higher Youth and Sports Council shoulders the responsibility for dealing with the problem of the free time from which the youth suffer. This is why we need actual work camps.

We need to use the energy of the youth for planting trees alongside the streets, paving roads and reclaiming land. We should not let our youth go abroad to waste their time and efforts as dish washers in restaurants or as workers rolling barrels at farms. We need the efforts of our youth.

We must also admit that we close our schools throughout the 5 months of the summer holidays. Why don't we open these schools and fill them with activity and why don't we let the students and the youth return to them to engage in athletic and cultural activities and projects to serve the environment?

When Mutual Respect Was Lost

Dr 'Ali al-Mufti, former dean of the School of Medicine and professor of nose, ear and throat medicine at 'Ayn Shams University, believes that it is necessary

for university professors to take part in dealing with student problems, confronting any deviation and devoting attention to the ethics and values of society and the ethics of the profession itself.

He also says that the youth are at times tense by nature but that they must be dealt with calmly and with sound logic so that they abandon this [radical] approach.

The vital bond between the instructor and the student and the student's respect for his professor must be restored so as to make it possible to guide the student correctly and enable him to gain the experience his professor enjoys. This approach gives the student broader spheres in his university and practical life.

To realize this, the number of students must be limited so that the professors can carry out the responsibility of teaching, guiding and advising. Otherwise, everything will continue to be mere words.

If the student is required to respect the professor, then the professor is required to exert greater efforts inside and outside the lecture halls so that he can attract the students to the right way of life that is free of this radicalism and deviation.

If we want a healthy society free of problems and a society of all the producers, then the family must restore its bonds and the mother must assist in this regard, even if this forces her to sacrifice her work when necessary. The state should make it possible for the mother to take care of her children, even if only during the critical period of their life, namely, the period of childhood, and even if the state has to shoulder a burden so that the mother can stay home and take care of her family. This approach will save the state in the future the burdens that it will have to shoulder as a result of youth deviation. This is what Dr Hasan Kamal, deputy dean of the School of Commerce of 'Ayn Shams University, demands.

To conclude, university presidents and teaching faculty members have defined the most important problems experienced by the youth and they have formulated both short-term and long-term solutions for these problems. What remains to be done is to put these proposals into practice so as to build a strong barrier to any deviation and to turn the youth into a rational force--not a destructive force--that builds and that protects the sacred soil of Egypt so that Egypt can always be the source of goodness, love and peace.

[27 Oct 81 p 3]

[Article by Nawal Mustafa]

[Text] AL-AKHBAR has spent several successive days among 'Ayn Shams University students and inside their auditoriums, listening to their words, discussing their problems and familiarizing itself with their views and opinions on what is going around them and their proposals for and solutions to their problems. AL-AKHBAR has also lived with their future hopes and aspirations and with the obstacles impeding or frustrating their prospects.

In a frank confrontation with what is going on in the mind of the university youth, AL-AKHBAR has conducted this study, which reflects the various opinions and the numerous problems facing the students of the various colleges. Some of these problems are connected with the studies and others with the daily hardships. The study also embodies the youth problems, hopes and aspirations and, ultimately, their thought.

At the sophomore auditorium of 'Ayn Shams School of Commerce, I met with a group of male and female students and the dialogue began:

Maha Ahmad Nur al-Din says: The large number of students in the halls force us to miss some of the lectures because it is unreasonable to stand for hours on our feet. Moreover, the high cost of books is a big burden, especially to students with a limited income. The least expensive book costs 3.5 pounds.

Problem of Free Time

Muna Mahmud 'Atiyah says that the officials must find a solution to the problem of free time encountered by the students in the universities. This free time provides the opportunity for radical ideas to infiltrate the university and gives the groups alien to us the chance to infiltrate the university society. As far as we, the students of the School of Commerce, are concerned, we can see our future only in working in the private sector because working in the public sector kills the ambition of the youth and wastes their capabilities. This is why I believe that work in the public sector must be developed so that its image in the mind of the youth improves.

Muhammad Ahmad Yusuf says: The problems of the youth are the problems of the entire people, namely, difficult transportation, the high cost of books and the late arrival of books, which creates a state of indifference among the youth because what can they do and how can they study without books?

I suggest that a private [al-ahliyah] university be established as soon as possible because the students applying to the University of Beirut attend classes with us and thus the overcrowding intensifies.

Fu'ad 'Abd al-Washhab Muhammad says: Our daily problems are numerous and we encounter these problems from the moment we leave our homes in the morning until we return to them. I leave my house 2 hours before the time of the lecture. Moreover, the large numbers in the hall affect our comprehension. These numbers also affect the work opportunities available to us after graduation.

Hibah Sa'd Zaghlul Hasan: We support the presence of the university guard because it gives us a feeling of security and safety in the wake of the waves of violence and terrorism that have emerged. I hope that this system will continue to be implemented even after termination of the emergency law.

Hibah further says: Plans must be drawn up to deal with the economic problems facing Egypt. I believe that the state subsidy for many goods ends up in the hands of those who don't deserve it. This subsidy amounts to the large figure of 1,556,000,000 pounds annually, whereas if we confine the subsidy to the truly

poor classes we would save this huge sum for major national projects or for increasing wages and enhancing the standard of living.

Why, for example, should the rich buy a loaf of bread for 1 piaster when it costs the state 5 piasters? To solve the transportation problem, I propose that we give private companies the opportunity to compete with the government-owned public transportation companies. I believe that this would greatly ease the transportation crisis.

Television Circuit to Prevent Overcrowding

Hisham al-'Asrah says: I propose that the system of closed-circuit television be used in the lecture halls to solve the problem of student overcrowding from which we suffer. This system has been used by Cairo University. We would thus eliminate the difficulty of hearing the professor's words or of seeing what explanations he writes on the blackboard. Using closed-circuit television, students could be divided and seated in two auditoriums and hear the lecture clearly, without being overcrowded.

There is another problem, namely, that of the scarcity of cultural books and of symposiums held to enlighten the students and to provide them with a sound background on everything happening in our country. This scarcity permits the ideas of the deceivers and of the saboteurs to infiltrate and turns the students into easy prey for exploitation by the radical religious groups.

Moreover, the unavailability of textbooks at the beginning of the academic year creates a lot of free time among the students.

Equal Chances

I also propose that any student repeating his class should do so at his own expense so that we can guarantee a serious approach by the students to education. When I fail and repeat my class, thus taking the seat to which another is entitled, this failure represents an injustice and creates a lack of equal opportunity.

Yasir Anwar, a senior in the School of Commerce, says: The lack of model answers for the questions of previous examinations perplexes us. The answers are not prepared by the professors but are often prepared by the publishers with the aim of making a profit. The students are reassured only by the books written by the professors themselves.

Nasir Mahmud al-Shimi, a sophomore in civil engineering, says that the textbooks, are expensive. The least expensive book costs 5 pounds and the price of a book ranges at times from 8-10 pounds. Moreover, the books are delivered late. Engineering instruments are also very expensive.

Polarization by Religious Groups

Al-Shimi adds: There were problems facing us last year. But they have disappeared this year. The most important of those problems was the domination of student

union elections by the radical groups, which resorted to various means to achieve this domination. They used to reprint expensive books at low cost, thus winning over students by reducing their financial burdens. Moreover, the members of these groups also prepared comprehensive summaries for the students, thus attracting them and gaining their support in the union elections. These actions also encouraged the students to believe the radicals and to believe the ideas they embraced. Last year, the radicals ruined all the parties and symposiums held by the various student families in the college. The members of the groups also gave extra lessons and lectures to members of the religious groups only.

Devoting Attention to Athletic Activity

Yasir Kamal al-Mushannab, a student at 'Ayn Shams School of Engineering, says: We support disciplined and regular attendance as of the first day of the academic year. We also support the reinstatement of the university guard because this realizes security and safety for the university's male and female students. I wish that the cost of the university textbooks would be reduced and that stronger ties would be established between the faculty members and the students. I also demand that cultural, religious and political symposiums be held at the universities to enlighten and educate the students so that they can become familiar with their country's issues and problems and so that the relationship between the officials and the students can be strengthened. I also demand that mutual visits between the students of the Egyptian and foreign universities be increased by curtailing barriers to the students' summer travel and by organizing and refining travel arrangements.

Work Opportunities

Yasir Ahmad Murad, a sophomore in civil engineering, says: I wish greater attention were devoted to athletic activity in the universities. I also demand that work opportunities be created for the students in their sphere of study during the summer holidays so that they can gain adequate practical and scientific experience to serve their country and, at the same time, fill their free time with beneficial activity.

Mahmud 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Arafat, a student in 'Ayn Shams School of Engineering, member of the Cultural and Art Committee of the Student Federation and secretary of the Cultural Committee of the Egyptian Family, says: As for the problems facing us, the Islamic group held most of the positions in the Student Federation in the preceding years. This probably has numerous causes, the most important being the fact that they resorted to any means to reduce the burdens on the students, such as printing books at reduced prices, preparing summaries and giving extra lessons and lectures. Last year, they used to force their way into the parties held by the student families to smash the musical instruments used there. Because the members of the families did not want to clash with the group, they would withdraw and every activity came to a standstill. We also demand that the rewards given to excelling students be increased.

Sahar Nabil, a junior at the electrical engineering section of 'Ayn Shams University, says: I would like to laud the system of disciplined and regular attendance as of the first day of the academic year. I propose that the prices of university textbooks be reduced to make them compatible with the economic standard of the

students. I also propose increased contact between the students and the professors and increased cultural and athletic activity in the colleges. I also hope that the problem of overcrowded laboratories from which the School of Engineering suffers will be solved.

Gap Between Student and Professor

Tariq Muhammad Amin, freshman at 'Ayn Shams School of Engineering, says: The real problem we face is exemplified in the big gap that exists between the students and the professors. Moreover, the high cost of the textbooks and of the needed instruments represents a burden on the students.

At the 'Ayn Shams School of Medicine, the students encounter different kinds of problems. The problem of private lessons, of overcrowding in the autopsy room during autopsy lectures--where the number of students working on a single cadaver has reached 76--the problem of increased numbers of students in the laboratories and the problem of the difficulty the students encounter in examining slides under microscopes, a problem that has compelled financially able students to purchase their own slides and apparatuses to be able to study them at home and not at the colleges--these problems head the list.

Private Lessons

Batistiyah Muhammad, a fourth-year student at 'Ayn Shams School of Medicine, says: Private lessons are widespread among the students. The reason for this is the large number of students that makes it impossible to understand the explanations given during a lecture. This motivates them to seek private lessons.

Al-Sayyid al-Badawi Mustafa, a third-year student of medicine, says: We at the School of Medicine suffer from the lack of a single and unified textbook for the course. This leads us into the labyrinths of various books that focus on points that the course professor doesn't want. We demand that each professor write a specific textbook that the students could abide by. As for the problem of private lessons, I believe that the students themselves are responsible for them. My grades for all the previous years have been very good and I have not resorted to private lessons.

Halah Hilmi Mitri, a third-year student at 'Ayn Shams School of Medicine, says that the problem of the multiplicity of textbooks and references in every course causes us to be strongly divided between lectures, books and references. The students who get private lessons do not need to exert the efforts we exert without such lessons because the instructor or the professor sums up the most important points for them and gathers for them all the information in a memorandum or a leaflet. This makes it easy for them to get the highest marks.

Crowded Autopsy Room

Halah Muhammad 'Ismat, a third-year student of medicine, believes that the students must be divided into small groups--of 20 students each--in the autopsy room so that the cadaver can be seen clearly and so that they can dispense with private lessons. Halah also says that the radical religious groups have not been able

to influence the students of the School of Medicine because these students have no free time and because all their time is taken up by their studies.

Ahmad Salah al-Din, a second-year student of medicine, says: The problem of large numbers obstructs the process of understanding and full comprehension and this makes students resort to private lessons. The Student Federation must print inexpensive editions of textbooks, as the Islamic groups did in previous years.

Husayn al-Sayyid, a second-year student of medicine, says: The autopsy room is overcrowded and we cannot understand a thing till a month after the studies begin because a large number of students then begins to take private lessons and does not attend the lectures, thus providing space for the other students.

Muhammad Raja'i, a second-year student of medicine, says: The library open hours are very short, from 1000-1300. Moreover, the library doesn't have many books. This forces us to purchase the many reference books that we need.

Hanan Muhammad Husayn, a sophomore at the 'Ayn Shams Women's College, says: The problem of free time is the biggest problem we encounter in the university. I hope that attention will be devoted to the athletic, social and cultural activities so that we do not get bored with our university life and so that no opportunity will be provided for the radical groups to infiltrate the youth society. I also hope that we will be given the opportunity to work so as to fill the free time from which we suffer.

Devoting Attention to Athletic Activity

Tariq Tantawi, a student at the Agricultural Cooperation Institute in Shubra al-Khaymah, believes that athletic activities in the university are not at a level that encourages the youth to take part in them and that the library needs to have the quality of its cultural books enriched. Tariq proposes that the colleges introduce a system whereby work opportunities are provided for the students to fill their free time and to utilize this free time in beneficial ways.

Abolition of Public Service

Najla' Sayyid, a fourth-year student at 'Ayn Shams Women's College, believes that it is necessary to abolish the public service year because it wastes a full year for the students and costs the state a large annual sum spent in the form of rewards disbursed to the students monthly in return for no work that they perform.

Halah Abu Bakr Ahmad, a third-year student at the 'Ayn Shams School of Law, says that the costs of books at the school are very high and range from 5 to 7 pounds a book. She also says that contact between the students and the professors is nonexistent and that this doesn't give the student the full opportunity to benefit from the professor's education and knowledge. She proposes that greater attention be devoted to cultural, religious and social symposiums so as to create awareness and a cultural background among university students.

[28 Oct 81 p 3]

[Article by Mahmud 'Arif, Rif'at Mahrus and Muna al-Dahhan]

[Text] More than one question surfaces in discussions dealing with youth problems and issues.

Why have some youths swerved from the right path and resorted to violence, destruction, killing and aggression?

How is it that the minds and consciences of the members of these radical groups forgotten the virtue of belonging to the homeland and of loyalty to the sacred soil called Egypt?

How has this misguided faction forgotten the virtue of dialogue with wisdom and with the kind word and turned to the dialogue of blood, bullets, betrayal and treachery?

How have these devious groups agreed to set themselves up as rulers without support and judges without evidence, accusing people of infidelity and of deviating from the divine Shari'a and killing life, which God prohibits killing, unless rightfully?

The questions are numerous but the most important question is: How do we protect the Egyptian youth from these alien currents that are destructive to all the great principles and values of Islam?

What, then, is the way to build strong youth, youth who build and don't destroy, youth who preserve and don't squander and youth who debate and discuss with those around them all of their life's affairs with wisdom, gentle exhortation and good words?

Now that the universities have dotted the i's and crossed the t's insofar as the problems of their students are concerned and have attributed some of the causes to the inadequacy of their open-door enrollment policy, to the overcrowded lecture halls, to the loss of the university spirit and to the disappearance of the student, athletic, cultural and social activities and so forth, psychology professors, educators and educational experts have their opinion on how to deal with the youth problems and have their method of correction.

Youth Searching for Their Identity

In principle, it can be said that in youth and in the phase of transition from childhood to adulthood and manhood, the youth feel that they are on their way to search for their identity and their existence and to answer several questions: Who am I, what will I be and how will I be?

Before answering these questions, Dr Sa'd al-Maghribi, professor of psychology at the Police Academy, wants to assert that the assassination and the murder of innocent people through acts of aggressive violence are incompatible with any principle or rule, be they religious, political or ethical principles or rules.

The professor of psychology adds: The youth must know themselves first and we, as a society and as officials, must familiarize ourselves with this phase of life. By virtue of their physical and psychological makeup, the youth are considered a vital and dynamic energy that is in constant motion. This energy moves in a certain sphere. This sphere must be broad and must have numerous paths and roads so that the youth can satisfy their needs on the one hand and prove themselves on the other.

In their motion, the youth move at the intellectual level, meaning that they have many questions pertaining to the life they lead and to what is beyond. The youth need to have these questions answered constantly by another source. This source might be another person with whom the youth engage in dialogue to get answers to the questions on their mind. This source might also be a book or a paper.

Therefore, we must supply the youth with an enlightened, free, objective and constructive newspaper. The same thing applies to books. This is in addition to providing the objective guide and educator, whether embodied in the father, the teacher or university professor or in the efforts of the various information media.

Youth Ambition and Promises

Dr Sa'd al-Maghribi further says that, first, we must be honest with youth at the intellectual level.

Second, dialogue between grownups and youth must be above all a scientific and rational dialogue.

In this regard, the slogans, the promises and the hopes we raise among the youth must be close to the limits of their personal capabilities on the one hand and close to the limits of the environment, conditions and circumstances under which they live on the other hand. This means that we should not create a big gap between the promises, goals and slogans we raise before the youth so that they do not feel disappointed and frustrated. Such disappointment and frustration generate patterns of behavior similar to those we have experienced recently.

The other sphere in which the youth move is that of emotions. This means that in their various relationships, whether with persons, values, laws or systems, youth must be given the opportunity to express their emotions in the proper manner.

Speaking of youth's dynamic motion, Dr al-Maghribi says: Youth have the desire to work. Why? Because the human being generally, and especially the youth, sees himself in what he does (identity reinforcement). Consequently, we must provide youth with the opportunity to engage in constructive work compatible with their capabilities and inclinations in all spheres. The youth will thus combine thought, dialogue, productive work and emotions in a feeling of satisfaction and happiness.

All this means ultimately that the youth carry within themselves great and vital psychological energy that must find an outlet. To realize good and fruitful results, we must provide various sound outlets. If the proper outlets to expend this energy are blocked, the youth necessarily resort to unhealthy outlets, some taking the form of isolation, negativism and indifference in its simplest forms and some taking the form of delinquent behavior, such as alcohol and drug addiction.

A third part may take the form of violent aggressive behavior aimed at destroying what the youth view, whether correctly or incorrectly, as the barriers impeding their movement.

Religiously, the youth must also find those with whom to engage in dialogue on religious matters on a rational basis, meaning that the youth need to find those who will give their religious questions and queries answers related to their real life and to the problems they experience and who will steer clear of the conventional religious approach, which is totally divorced from the youth's life. Youth must find a solution to the problems of their daily life and these solutions must be tied to religion. For example, clergymen must deal with questions of cleanliness, noise and honesty in daily dealings. Man must live the realities of religion.

As for the guiding example, it is of major importance to the youth, especially when the example comes from those who occupy important positions.

The example is very important for the youth. In this phase, the youth are forming their identity and establishing its features on the basis of the examples surrounding them. If the examples are good examples, we can make the youth indirectly absorb positive and constructive values.

Looking for Identity

Dr Ahmad Abu al-'Aza'im, specialist in psychiatric medicine, says that it is essential to view the problems of the youth from a curative angle, namely, that the youth have problems and these problems need to be treated whether inside the family or in the external society. He also says that there has to be a good example that attracts the youth instead of allowing them to turn toward radicalism because the youth phase is a very sensitive phase distinguished by the desire to search for identity and to assert the self. This must be done in a sound manner so that no delinquency develops.

It is also important to make religion's concepts and tolerance clear.

What do educators say about youth problems?

Tawfig al-Hadidi, undersecretary in the Ministry of Education and the educational advisor for al-Jizah Governorate, believes that there is no problem insofar as enrollment numbers in the preuniversity stages are concerned.

All that is required in the coming phase is for the school to provide its students with full care covering intellectual, physical, ethical and spiritual concerns.

For this care to be integrated with society, education must be applied to the environment and connected with life. What it means to have an applied education is for this education to be functional, thus making the individual aware of the importance and value of education to his life.

The system of education must also be based on letting the student himself gather the information, either from his environment and life or from books. In this case, the task of the teacher is to organize and supervise the student's gathering of the facts and the information.

The school must also exert efforts to develop the skills, talents and tendencies of our children and to channel them in the right direction.

Educationally, also, the student must be trained to read and to be informed and to show the outcome of his efforts in every sphere to his colleagues.

Encouraging Students to Express Their Opinions

Tawfiq al-Hadidi also says that we must train students to express their opinions and get them used to having educational problems put before them so that they can devise solutions for them. For example, we should seek their opinion on what textbooks to choose and must find out what things meet their needs insofar as a certain book is concerned. Such opinions must be presented to authors when they are writing and to those who review their books. The modern educational approach makes this a necessity.

Al-Hadidi also urges that students be involved in various athletic, artistic, cultural and social activities because these activities develop the student physically, psychologically and socially and make him feel his identity as an individual in a society that has its history and its civilization and a society to which he must contribute with his efforts.

Visits and trips must also be organized for the students, especially to work and production sites. There are enormous projects that exceed in their level the High Dam project and our students must see them, gather data and hold discussions about them because this is the right way to believe in the country's resources. Such visits and trips also entrench in students the spirit of loyalty to their country and demonstrate to them the extent of the Egyptian man's ability to utilize his country's resources to enhance production and to realize happiness for the people.

Training the students to engage in daily life, to study the environment and to participate in solving its problems is very important and essential. Through this participation, the student becomes aware of his society's values and problems and tries to help solve these problems.

If all this is realized, then indubitably we will prepare our youth not to swerve from but to follow the sound patriotic path, which urges true faith and good behavior that help to move society naturally and propel it toward development, prosperity and happiness for all of the people.

Balanced Guidance Is Needed

Tawfiq al-Hadidi adds: Providing a proper future life for youth in the new societies is one of the factors that reassures the youth regarding their future life and makes them think of developing their country and their life.

The youth need balanced guidance in all the affairs of their secular and religious life. We must train the youth to adopt the patterns of behavior demanded by society, such as truthfulness, honesty, loyalty, love and cooperation. Religion demands all this and we need it in our social life.

Such guidance can be provided only by specialized professors supervising the students in the universities and by specialized supervisors in all centers of activity, in companies, in institutions and in all centers where the youth gather for work and production. The leaders of such institutions must be a good example for their workers and must rise to the level of responsibility. One of their main tasks must be that of training the youth who recently joined the institutions to shoulder responsibility and to develop love for their work and production. The tasks of the leader also include bringing to account whoever is lax or negligent in the work entrusted to him.

Why Don't Youth Have Feeling of Belonging

Dr Yahya Tal'at, general director of the (West Cairo Educational Affairs Department), says that the youth centers do not offer youth the needed services and this is why the students don't have the feeling of belonging to the school or to society. Moreover, one of the important concerns preoccupying youth is the material one. Many youth prefer to emigrate and engage in simple work abroad whereas there are big jobs at home that require the efforts of the youth, such as invading and reclaiming desert lands and reconstruction.

Dr Yahya Tal'at also says that most youth suffer from a scientific vacuum, in addition to an intellectual and religious vacuum. They don't know how to spend their free time in activities that are beneficial.

Dr Tal'at demands that attention be devoted to teaching religion at schools and says that this kind of education must receive greater attention, not through oratory sermons and speeches but through good behavior, noble ethics and good example.

Beware Free Time

Kamal Mansur, general director of (Heliopolis Educational Affairs Department), says that the most important problem facing the youth at this early age is their not knowing how to spend their free time in beneficial work. There is no coordination between the school and the agencies concerned with other activities, such as clubs and youth centers. Coordination must be established between these institutions so that they can succeed in performing their message.

Kamal Mansur also says that schools lack athletic fields that allow students to pursue their athletic hobbies.

If free time is not utilized well, delinquency follows, and this delinquency can be intellectual, religious or criminal.

We must change the system of summer camps so as to turn them into real, not superficial work camps. Moreover, ethics must be taught in schools.

Salah al-Baz, deputy director of the Heliopolis Educational Affairs Department, agrees with the view that it is necessary to pay attention to physical education because it is the sound basis for building both the body and the mind and for straightening the character.

He believes that the vanguards system supervised by the Higher Youth and Sports Council is a faulty system because it devotes attention to a small number of outstanding youth whereas attention should be given to all the youth.

This is also what 'Abd al-Mun'im 'Uways, deputy director of the North Cairo Educational Affairs Department, says. He adds that religious education must be reflected in the behavior of both individuals and groups. We thus create the good example for youth to follow.

So That Youth May Not Experience Alienation

On the basis of actual experience, the psychology professors and the educators have stated their opinion on youth problems.

But what do the professors of the education colleges say on this important issue?

The 'Ayn Shams College of Education has held an international conference to discuss youth problems. The conference was attended by Dr Muhammad Kamil Laylah, president of 'Ayn Shams University, and by Dr 'Abd al-Salam 'Abd al-Ghaffar, dean of the College of Education.

The conference recommendations underline clearly the feeling of alienation experienced by the youth in their society. The recommendations stress that some youth feel indifferent and others show no desire for work or for serious study and that both groups go to extremes in their tendencies.

This is due to the absence in society of a clear philosophy as to what causes the youth to fall prey to alien and destructive currents that come to the youth through radio and television programs whose producers are not aware of the destructive effects such programs have on the personality of the youth.

The conference expresses the belief that solving the problem of radicalism lies in having the grownups open their hearts to the youth, in discussing issues with the youth and in persuading the youth or being persuaded by them so that they can gain the respect of the youth anew.

The conference also sees the need to deal with youth democratically, to seek their opinion on issues concerning them and to have them participate in the decisions affecting them, not to gain their approval but to win their support and enthusiasm. Thus, the energy of the youth will be utilized in what is beneficial to them and to the country.

If this is the opinion of university professors, psychologists, educators and educational experts on youth problems, then there remains an important and vital aspect in this study--an aspect pertaining to the people concerned with the issue themselves.

What do the youth say about their problems?

[29 Oct 81 p 3]

[Article by Muhjah Dasuqi]

[Text] One of the problems given priority by President Husni Mubarak in the coming phase is that of youth, considering that the youth are leaders of the future. President Mubarak has said that the issue of youth care is one of the issues pre-occupying his mind and that the Egyptian youth need positive efforts on our part to rescue them from aimlessness. The president has also said that the state shoulders a major responsibility in filling their free time.

President Mubarak has also stressed the need for a cultural, athletic, social and religious youth welfare plan to be drawn up by a team of enlightened thinkers and has said that this plan will be the practical means for confronting the tendencies of radicalism in society.

AL-AKHBAR begins publishing here a coordinated study conducted among the university youth to learn their problems, to listen to them, to their daily hardships, to their ideas, to their proposals for solving the problems facing them, to their concepts of the future, to their aspirations and to their thoughts on how these aspirations can be realized.

AL-AKHBAR has spent several days with the youth so that it can ultimately convey a completely honest picture of what is going on in the minds of Egyptian university students.

Kariman 'Abd al-'Aziz, a final-year student at the Cairo University School of Commerce, says: One of the most prominent negative aspects from which nearly 90 percent of the university students suffer is that the various activities, be they cultural or recreational, are confined to the members of the Student Federation, to their friends and their acquaintances. The other students find themselves denied the opportunity of filling the free time from which they suffer. The role of the Student Federation or the system of families is confined to recreational aspects. Moreover, this system takes a negative attitude toward the student problems, be they problems within the university or outside it. I hope that the people in charge will change this attitude toward the coming generations because there are human aspects that must be taken into consideration by these student unions.

Kariman adds: The truth is that I, as a woman and a university student, experience an enormous vacuum that the information media and the university have not yet been able to fill. The youth programs are very limited and are often unable to perform their role in developing our awareness, especially religious awareness. We are in the direst need of such awareness.

As to her opinion regarding students engaging in political activity inside the university, Kariman is not convinced that this is a good idea because the student in this phase, according to her, is still not mature politically and because his sole preoccupation is supposed to be learning so that he can obtain his college degree.

Du'a' al-Wakil, a freshman civil engineering student at the Cairo School of Engineering, says: What we suffer from severely is the overcrowding of the halls resulting from the large number of students at the college. This overcrowding affects our comprehension of the lectures and causes the professor or the lecturer to try to end the lecture as quickly as possible so that he can escape the stifling overcrowding inside the hall. As for her opinion regarding the Student Federation and its role, she agrees with Kariman that this role is confined to recreational aspects only.

Faulty Radicalism

Speaking of the religious groups, Du'a' says: There is no disgrace in religion and a religious person is, naturally, a good person because he understands well his rights and his duties. As for radicalism in religion or religious fanaticism, it blinds a person and causes him to make erroneous judgments. Frankly, the religious university student doesn't find those who will answer his questions, explain what is vague to him or satisfy his religious needs.

Model and Example

Khalid Subhi, a freshman civil engineering student says: It is assumed that a university student is in a phase in which his principles and values are being formulated and in which he seeks the model or the ideal example. This is why this student is constantly looking for the truth in all its forms. It is my opinion that religion is the main path. So why doesn't the university hold religious symposiums in which students meet with jurists and religious scholars who can dispel much of the vagueness engulfing the issues that confuse our thoughts and before which we stand perplexed and doubtful? I believe that such symposiums would have an effective impact in educating and enlightening the youth religiously, thus blocking the path to tamperers and those who hide behind the mask of religion.

Counter Inclination

Khalid (al-Suyufi), also an engineering student, says:

The media create indirectly a counter religious inclination, meaning that they show some films, plays or programs that are incompatible with the teachings of religion and that contain lewd scenes or languages that evoke rejection among the religious youth. This rejection, along with the absence of adequate religious awareness, creates radicalism among these youth and this is where the danger lies.

Khalid goes on to add: Religious awareness is supposed to be developed at an early age so that it can take root in a person. This is why religion must be taught profoundly as of the first years of a person's life and must continue as a subject taught through the university level. The discipline of religion must be a basic discipline like the other subjects studied by a student.

Legal Channel

Hasan 'Ali Tubi, a freshman mechanical engineering student, says:

The university student has the right to state his opinion in the society in which he lives and within the limits of what he actually knows so that he does not make faulty judgments on matters of which he is totally ignorant. As for engaging in politics, I believe that it is wrong for a student to do so because there are numerous facts he doesn't know due to his lack of such major elements as age and experience. The real problem, in my view, is the lack of a legitimate channel through which I can express my views frankly. Where is this channel? This is the very important ingredient that is missing.

I believe that there must be discussion and dialogue sessions in which students, college professors and some state officials take part to study the various aspects of our lives so that we can express our opinion on these affairs instead of expressing them in the street, in the line while waiting to buy cigarettes or on a bus. I know that this is wrong but it is what is actually happening at present.

Private Lessons

A second-year student at the School of Sciences who declined to reveal his name said with emotion: This is disgraceful. Where is the equality of chances? The problem of private lessons has totally destroyed this principle. The best chances of success are made available to those who take private lessons. As for the other students who have a limited income and who are incapable of paying, success is a matter of luck, despite the maximum efforts they exert in working and studying. I beg any official who has the power to eliminate this phenomenon to move immediately to put this principle [of equal chances] into practice.

Lack of Bond

Huda Fikri, a third-year student at the Cairo School of Arts, says: Religious programs are supposed to be very important in enlightening the youth. As a Christian, I wish that religious programs were presented on radio and television. Inside the university, we have no religious symposiums or discussions to enlighten the Christians and to guide them on the right path. This is something that my Muslim colleagues also miss.

She adds: One of the most serious problems from which we suffer in the university, and in the School of Arts in particular, is that of the almost total absence of a bond between the students and the professors. As a result of the enormous number of students, there is no professor who knows the students he teaches. Even students of the same year don't know each other. This creates in the university students a strong feeling of alienation.

Closure of Cafeteria and Library

Walid al-Kafrawi, a third-year engineering student, says: Closure of the cafeteria causes us grave harm. There are always free hours between lectures, sometimes 3 full hours between one lecture and the next. During this time, we are compelled to stand in the street while waiting for the next lecture. Moreover, the cafeteria used to offer meals at modest cost. This is vital and essential, since we spend long hours at the college because of the class hours. The officials have also closed the library, which used to serve for either reading or resting between

lectures. I believe that if the cafeteria and the library were closed for security reasons, then it was uncalled for, especially since students are not allowed to enter the college unless they have special identity cards. So the security justification is inadequate and there is absolutely no call for closing places that used to help a lot during school hours.

High Cost of Books

'Izzah Muhyi al-Din, a third-year engineering student, says: Confidence between the students and the professors is totally lost due to the lack of a relationship between the two sides. This creates a wide gap reflected in the students' rebellion on the one hand and the professors [word unintelligible] on the other.

We also suffer from the problem of the high cost of books. The books are actually available but their prices are unreasonable for the student with a middle income. Moreover, there has been no price reduction, despite the promises of some officials.

Open Door

Maryam Husni, a freshman student at the School of Arts, says: We lack a relationship binding the professors to the students, meaning that the professors live in an ivory tower far from the students, their problems, their dreams and their aspirations. This, in turn, isolates the students from the officials and compels them to retreat into the cocoon of their own ideas and concepts, which may be faulty because there is nobody to discuss their ideas with them and to correct these ideas.

I wish that we would follow the open-door policy inside the university, holding symposiums in which the officials and the professors discuss with the students the various problems, opinions and concepts affecting all aspects of the students' life so that we do not feel that there are enormous barriers separating us.

Hanan Mahmud, a second-year student at the School of Law, says: What we suffer from most is the absence of the ideal example, both inside and outside the university. This makes us constantly reluctant and totally unconvinced of anything. We have doubts and suspicions and we cannot reach the truth.

Nahid Na'il Sabri, a second-year student at the Cairo School of Sciences, says: Religious awareness is very deficient among the youth. The radio and television religious programs are offered in a very boring format that does not encourage keeping up with these programs. As for the university groups entrusted with the various activities, the student doesn't feel their presence because their activities are confined to a very small number of students.

Hazim 'Abd al-'Aziz Naji, a second-year student at the School of Agriculture, says: In this phase, the youth miss the model or the ideal example in life. The student finds that his colleague who has a higher material standard comes from an opportunistic family that makes illicit profit and yet this colleague has the people's respect because he owns a car in which he comes to college, gets private lessons as he wishes, buys books regardless of how high their price, and succeeds. Meanwhile, the struggling student, who may be the son of a junior civil servant, faces numerous problems.

Politics Is Something Else

Nadiyah 'Izz al-Din Sabri, a freshman student at the Cairo School of Agriculture, says: It is the right of the university student to express his opinion frankly on everything because he is a member of society and because university students in their entirety represent a broad sector in society. But there has to be a legitimate and acknowledged channel through which he can express his opinion so that he is not prone to making mistakes. As for engaging in politics, it is something that is totally different from the expression of opinion. It is a great responsibility rather than a right the student can demand. Engaging in politics requires awareness and mature and crystallized thought in all aspects and spheres of life.

Husam 'Abd al-'Aziz Nassar, a third-year student at the School of Sciences, says: We believe in sound care and guidance in the cultural and religious spheres. I wish there were open discussion sessions in which clergymen participated with the students to enlighten them so that the delinquent who hides behind the mask of religion would find no opportunity to infiltrate among us.

Samirah 'Abd al-Fattah Husayn, a second-year student at the Cairo School of Law, says: The price of books is very high and is beyond the means of the student with a middle income. Books are the only means to success because the lectures are not comprehensive and we cannot understand them well due to the large number of students in the lecture halls. The cost of private lessons is also very high and not every student can afford them. Thus, the only means left to the student is books and the cost of one book reaches 20 pounds at times, keeping in mind that such a book covers only one part of one course. So how can we afford to buy the books for the other subjects?

Ashraf Hasan al-Tuni, a final-year student at the School of Arts, says: The university officials are very remote from the students. They know nothing about the students and they don't try to learn anything about them. Thousands of us have problems, not all of them serious. But these problems do affect us in one way or another. Despite this, we cannot reach any official who can find a solution to any problem.

[1 Nov 81 p 3]

[Article by Mahmud 'Arif, Na'imah Jalil and 'Ali Mahir]

[Text] In his meeting with al-Azhar scholars and with members of the Islamic Research Academy, President Muhammad Husni Mubarak said that the fundamental message of the venerable al-Azhar is to prepare the youth and to give them a sound religious education because Islam is a tolerant religion that rejects delinquency, excessiveness and extravagance. President Mubarak also asked al-Azhar men to hold constant meetings with the youth to explain the true Islamic concepts to them and to answer all the problems facing them.

The dialogue goes on and the question raised is still:

How has radicalism emerged and how do we protect the youth from this destructive danger?

How has the black rancor infiltrated these minds?

Is this due to education in its current state, which doesn't provide adequate and sound religious education to school and university students, or to the infiltration of alien concepts and books that propagate creeds remote from the course of Islam, such as the Shi'ites and the Khawarij--all of which are sects that use religion as a mask and that embrace assassination and destruction as their creed and course? These are groups that have turned assassination in the name of religion into war on religion, that discriminate among Muslims and that seek chaos and massacres.

The question still persists: Do the Egyptian youth truly suffer from a religious and intellectual vacuum or is this the problem of a group with limited influence and impact and a group that has lost the right path? Is it really possible to confront this group without belittling and without exaggerating and is it possible to pull it out by the roots so that it cannot gain strength, so that it cannot intensify and so that it cannot turn into destructive bullets that spread ruin in the land?

The question continues to be: Who shoulders the responsibility for confronting this delinquency and how?

Does the responsibility fall on the shoulders of al-Azhar and its men solely or is it the responsibility of the state and of the society, including the family, the school, the university, the information media and the institutions and establishments entrusted with building man and molding his conscience on the sound basis of truthfulness, integrity and the courageous expression of opinion?

We return to the crucial question: How has radicalism instated itself as a judge accusing people of infidelity when every man is accountable to God in this world and in the hereafter for what he has done and when every soul is the hostage of what it has earned?

Can an individual or a group accuse of infidelity a society that boasts one of the capitals of Islam that both Muslims and non-Muslims have called the city of 1,000 minarets--a city from which the voices of callers for prayers rise five times every day and night, praising God, attesting that Muhammad is God's prophet and calling for prayers?

Can a group characterize as infidel millions of people in Egypt's rural areas and cities who frequent the mosques morning and evening?

Sound Start From Here

We definitely want youth with strong faith and youth who cling to the great values and principles of Islam. But how?

We find the answer with Dr Muhammad al-Tayyib al-Najjar, the president of al-Azhar University:

The first cause of youth problems is the lack of full control in the period of childhood. This period is the most convenient period of education because it is easy to mold and form the child.

If spiritual nourishment is not available to the child, he reaches the stage of youth without having any religious asset and without the immunity to resist evils and sinful situations when he encounters them. If the child grows up, follows the paths of life and encounters problems without having immunity, then only one of two things can happen:

He will either resort to religious people, and these have their circumstances--some of them may have their own objectives and so find before them good raw material that they can influence and that accepts their principles, thus leading the youth to excesses and to the delinquency that distorts the principles of religion because these people don't seek to propagate religion but to attain the positions they desire and goals they seek and this is the cause of deviation... [as published].

Good and Evil in Media

Despite the anomaly appearing in the visible information media, television has its good and its evil. Some of the plays [shown on television] contain lewdness and this lewdness drives the youth toward vice and leads them to delinquency.

The basis of religious delinquency is formed by certain people who seek special objectives and who are supported by [foreign] countries that supply them with money. Such monies may come from communist countries or by way of theft and robbery, sometimes armed robbery because the people involved kill citizens and seize their money. Considering that these people kill, how can what they advocate religion and be called religious when they lead people away from religion?

The youth are exposed to intellectual delinquency everywhere and at all times and they often give free reign to their imagination and their illusions, which put distance between them and reality. This is why the youth are controversial. This is normal. These are the words with which Dr Ahmad Fathi al-Zayyat, vice president of al-Azhar University for higher studies and research, begins his statements.

In view of the fact that the youth are a nation's beating heart and the hand that builds the nation, it is our duty to advise, guide and enlighten them so that they can grow up on strong foundations that they can use as beacons on their way in life.

It is also the duty of the youth to come to us to seek advice and guidance and to give us their full confidence so that we can give them the experience and the expertise we have gained in life.

Therefore, it is the duty of society to pay attention to the behavior of the youth, to follow their progress and to correct their error when they deviate from the path.

Dr al-Zayyat points out that in recent years some signs have appeared among the youth indicating their confused, rigid and petrified understanding of religion and their harsh and violent treatment of those around them if those around them don't

accept the ideas of the youth. The youth may even develop hatred and rancor toward those who advise them and may even resort to violence and force if we try to reform them. They live in sweeping psychological perplexity that may expose them to danger and destruction. This rigidity can be countered on the other hand by degeneration, laxity and the imitation of harmful traditions under the slogan of development and freedom and other false slogans implanted by some tendentious enemies of the homeland and of religion who conceal these slogans behind the mask of modernization and of keeping up with the bandwagon of life. Regrettably, some of the youth have responded to these hollow trumpets and have begun seeking pleasure, shedding our inherited customs and traditions that are the outcome of generations of experience and of a deep-rooted human civilization.

Deviation From Religion

Dr al-Zayyat says that curing these delinquencies requires lengthy explanation. But stated briefly, our view is:

Deviation from religion--not religious delinquency because this is a faulty phrase, because religion has no fault in it and because the fault lies in understanding religion--is the result of:

First, the weakness of those engaged in the call, their inflexibility, their failure to simplify things, their lack of tact and their failure to steer clear of ambiguity and not to get involved in philosophical views that bore the young.

Second, the loss of trust on the part of the youth in many of the [religious] scholars. This is a most serious thing. The scholars are supposed to get down to the level of the youth. God has honored the scholars in the words of His prophet: "The ulema [scholars] are the heirs of the prophets." If they abandon the arena, then those who claim to be learned and knowledgeable will enter, keeping in mind that he who lacks something cannot give it.

Calm Dialogue Solves Problem

Yes, al-Azhar can face the problem of religious vacuum through calm and direct dialogue with the university youth to encourage them to express what is on their minds regarding religion. A continued calm dialogue with the youth in the universities, in the factories, in mosques and in society is capable of facing this intellectual delinquency, keeping in mind that religious delinquency is usually used as a means for evil political ends. This is what Dr 'Abd al-Latif Khulayf, vice president of al-Azhar University for education and student affairs, says. Dr Khulayf also says that easy booklets dealing with religious issues in a simple manner and with an easy language must be printed and distributed at all levels. Attention must also be devoted to training mosque imams and preachers to fill the vacuum existing at present in the private [al-ahliyah] mosques where unqualified people climb the rostrums to undertake the religious call. This means that the private mosques for which no immams have been appointed yet must not be left without imams who are al-Azhar scholars.

If al-Azhar has a role in graduating preachers, then this role can be summed up in several points:

A number of students enroll in al-Azhar's colleges of the Islamic call, the Shari'a and the principles of religion. The number of students graduating from these three colleges amounts to nearly 3,000 students annually. These graduates carry out the Islamic call through their work in the various mosques, schools and societies to which they are dispatched as preachers. It is well known that in our various societies, preachers have a major role in religious enlightenment and in reconciling various families. Moreover, those students who come to al-Azhar but whose circumstances do not permit them to complete their studies return to their villages and perform there the role of the village clergyman who teaches people the affairs of their religion, leads them in prayers and answers their questions on religious matters. I do not say that this group is educated religiously but it knows how to perform prayer, alms giving and fasting rites correctly.

It Is Problem of Psychological Conditions

The problem is not one of preachers but one of psychological conditions from which the youth suffer. These conditions lead the youth to despair, which in turn exposes them to delinquency. It is our duty to deal with all the conditions engulfing our youth in their various places and to conduct with the youth a deliberate, frank and truthful study so that we can discover why the youth turn to despair and then to delinquency.

We must confront seriously all the political, economic, social and cultural problems surrounding us so that the youth do not lose their confidence in the way we tackle the problems from which they suffer.

Al-Azhar University has the major task of confronting religious illiteracy in our society and it is capable of performing this role, which it has already performed for Egypt and for the Islamic world. What confirms this is that not a single student of al-Azhar University has swerved toward the current of sedition recently experienced by Egypt.

Dr 'Izzat al-Shaykh, dean of al-Azhar University's School of Commerce, believes that under difficult economic conditions problems appear and all kinds of delinquency (communism, religious radicalism and atheism) develop. There is no doubt that we are aware of the inability of the youth to cope with life, whether in the academic period or afterward.

Bond Between Professors and Students

As for the need for a bond between the professors and the students, I do not believe those who say that no bond can be established between the professors and the students in view of the large number of students and of the low [teaching] wages. Rather large number of students, the small number of professors and the low level of wages are merely obstacles to realization of this bond.

Dr al-Shaykh adds: Al-Azhar University must be the model in applying the principles of Islam by realizing social solidarity on its campus so that no student feels that he lacks housing, food, books and so forth. In other words, the university must provide the student with the means for an honorable life and must enroll only those who are capable of learning.

Youth's Emotions Are Quick

Dr Musa Shahun Lashin, dean of al-Azhar's College of the Principles of Religion, believes that youth is the phase of man's life that is dynamic, dashing and quick in its emotions. If this phase is not surrounded by a protective fence, disease and delinquency invade the body of the youth and it becomes difficult to find a cure for them and to root them out. This is exactly like a healthy person mixing with sick people without any immunity to protect him from their diseases.

Dr Lashin asserts that the disease of the age come into our societies and are imported into it in various ways as a result of the ease of communication and of shortened distances, which have brought about the mingling of cultures and of ideas. The information media transmit the destructive ideas and the various purposes found near and far and try to spread these ideas among the youth by virtue of their being the effective forces in a country. Add to this the weak immunity and immunization embodied in the weak family environment, educational environment and social environment.

Crowded Halls

Dr Lashin says that the problem doesn't lie in overcrowded lecture halls or in the shortage of faculty members. The problem lies in poor organization and discipline. A thousand people listening silently learn more than 10 people making noise and creating chaos. This problem may exist in the practical colleges where there is a need to see the professor and the explanations. However, the advanced countries have overcome this problem with [closed] television circuits. It is easy for us to follow their steps in this regard. Moreover, the advanced countries have turned to theoretical lectures recorded on tapes, which make it easy for the student to listen to them at home. So why don't we make recorded lectures available to the students so that they do not overcrowd lecture halls where theoretical lectures are given? There are numerous countries with a larger number of students and a smaller number of faculty than we have. Yet, through organization their goals and desired objectives are achieved.

Books Are Numerous But Who Reads?

Dr Musa Lashin asserts that al-Azhar University is like a pharmacy containing all kinds of drugs, despite the small number of people taking advantage of them. Learning is abundant and the books are numerous but the people don't read these books. The missing bond between the professor and the student in the university is nonexistent between al-Azhar's world and the people.

If we go back 50 years in memory, we would find al-Azhar students teaching at mosques even when they were only in the elementary stage and they would then continue this teaching task in secondary school and university stages. After graduation, a student would establish a close bond with the people and educate those around him. This used to be a characteristic in Egypt that you could see in no other Islamic country. However, this characteristic is about to become extinct now.

Al-Azhar, its university and its institutes must now supply religious leaders to all the Egyptian societies, be they institutes, schools, universities or factories,

so that these leaders can carry out the task of religious and moral education, provided that these societies and their leaders create the right climate for the performance of this message.

Dr Sa'd al-Din 'Ashmawi, deputy dean of al-Azhar's School of Commerce and the head of the business management section, says: The economic and social conditions encountered by our modern world generally and by our Arab world in particular lead to instability, confused concepts and unclear goals and hopes on the part of youth. What is their future after graduation from the university? Where will they find an apartment and how will they meet the demands of modern life, which is moving fast in front of them with all that is attractive and advanced? Where do they stand in a world where luxury goods are increasing steadily and turning into essentials for numerous classes of people, be they professionals, craftsmen, salesmen or businessmen?

Dr Sa'd al-Din 'Ashmawi attributes this [youth problems] to the disappearance of the intellectual, cultural and literary symposiums that used to absorb the thinking and efforts of many youth. Where are the cultural and athletic activities of the Muslim Youth Associations and of the scout groups? Where are the cultural symposiums that used to be held regularly at the Egyptian universities and at (Ewart) Hall at the American University? This is in addition to the disappearance of athletic activities in the clubs. What is more, some of the athletic clubs, despite their very large membership, which has compelled them to stop accepting new members, have turned into something like fashion show hall.

In the universities and the schools, the athletic fields and the laboratories that develop extra curricular hobbies have disappeared, all this at a time when homes and even streets are crowded with a high population density that makes it impossible to find space for any recreational activities.

Dr 'Ashmawi believes that a teacher's relationship with his students is the most sublime in human relations. If preaching and guidance often seem unattractive when (coming from certain people), then such preaching and guidance are more readily accepted from the teacher by virtue of his being a father, a guide and a teacher.

Dr 'Ashmawi believes that the university shoulders a fundamental role in remolding the thinking of the youth, provided that this is done in a soundly planned manner and provided that the youth are given the sound example--a pure hand and pure intentions, as the president has rightly said. There is also the need for a quick movement to underline society's moral values and to point out that they have not come from a vacuum but are the product of generations of human thought. It is essential to stress that the good of the individual and the good of the group are more often harmonious than divergent. The future of nations is in the strength of their members and of their social solidarity. Honorable competition among individuals doesn't nullify the fact that their future is tied to the future of a single homeland that combines them and secures hope and prosperity for them, their children and their grandchildren.

[Article by Mustafa Bilal]

[Text] Throughout recent days, AL-AKHBAR has presented a comprehensive and clear study to which university professors, education experts and psychologists have contributed their opinions. AL-AKHBAR has also lived with various groups of university youth and has interviewed samples representing the various views in all the colleges of 'Ayn Shams University and Cairo University. Today, AL-AKHBAR completes this deep and frank study in the lecture halls and with the students of al-Azhar University colleges.

The students have discussed the problem of university textbooks in both its aspects: High prices and the late delivery of books, just before the examinations. They have said that 5 pounds for one textbook for one subject and 12 subjects mean 60 pounds in book expenses annually. This is unaffordable, considering the material capabilities of al-Azhar students.

Students from out of town [al-mughtaribun] have demanded that the requirement of evaluation for being accepted at the university town be abolished and that a larger budget be allocated for housing all of the students. They have also demanded that loans and material aid be increased and that the red tape delaying the disbursement of this aid be eliminated. They have asserted that like other university students, they suffer from free time on campus, represented in the wide gap between the professor and the student, and outside campus, represented in the inadequacy of cultural, social and religious programs and in the inability of the youth centers to perform their role fully.

Now, let us get to the students' statements.

Hasan 'Abd al-Rahman 'Abd al-'Ati, a fifth-year student at the Shari'a and Law College, says: The main problem facing the student is the late delivery of textbooks. Some books are not delivered until the end of April, i.e., until 7 complete months have passed on the start of the academic year. What is more surprising is that we receive some textbooks long after the mid-year holidays. This is the first aspect. As for the other aspect, it lies in the very high prices of textbooks. Last year, I had to buy a textbook on trade law for 5.5 pounds and another book on international law for 6.25 pounds. If we make a simple calculation and compare these prices to the material capability of al-Azhar students, we find that there is a big gap for which the officials must find an urgent solution.

One Month Before Examination!

Muhammad Muhsin Sultan, a fourth-year student at the Shari'a College and secretary of the college's Athletic Activity Committee, says: There have been numerous promises but none of them has been fulfilled. Some professors have said that they will reexamine the issue of high textbook prices and late delivery. But last year when the date of the examinations was just around the corner and only 1 month before those examinations, we were still buying textbooks and receiving some mimeographed materials and there was no change insofar as the prices were concerned. It must be noted that al-Azhar student is a middle-income student and that

a textbook sold for 5 pounds is just too expensive for him. Moreover, a student of al-Azhar takes no less than 10 courses annually. Regarding athletic activity, Sultan asserts: The monetary subsidy and the budget allocated for this activity is not at all adequate and falls 50 percent, or a little more, short of the sums requested by the committee.

Rida Fu'ad 'Abd al-Fattah, a fifth-year student at the Shari'a College, says: All the professors are very busy and this doesn't give us any chance to meet with them or talk to them outside the auditoriums or lecture halls. The lectures are numerous and we don't have any time. Therefore, we don't feel that we have any free time in the university. This makes us extremely tired. But all of the students acknowledge the biggest advantage, namely, the absence of private lessons in al-Azhar. In this, we are better off than our colleagues in the other universities.

Memory Tape

University students suffer from countless problems. A student who has declined to reveal her name has said: The main problem for the student on campus is his isolation, yes, his isolation from the university society to which he belongs, in which he lives and where he spends most of the hours of his day. Believe me, if a student, any student, encounters a problem, then he can find nobody to talk to. I mean by anybody the professors who are older and more experienced than the student. But it is difficult for the professor to listen to his student. Why? The reason is clear and obvious and needs no big question mark. The universities are no longer what they used to be or as we used to hear them described by our previous colleagues. They are no longer a single united family, with the professor sitting with the student when the latter encounters a problem to listen to him and try as hard as possible to find a solution to the problem of this son or student. This no longer exists and it has vanished, as if it were a memory. The professor's sole task at the college at present is his course. He delivers his lecture, unloads his information and then disappears from the eyes of the students. He has performed his role and he has to depart!

Midhat Mahmud Mustafa, a second-year student at al-Azhar School of Commerce, asserts that the student experiences dangerous free time outside the university, especially after the end of the academic year, meaning during the summer vacation. What can the student do? Reading is not enough and the work opportunities that the state tries to make available to the students are not enough. Moreover, the existing youth centers offer the student nothing noteworthy. To solve this problem, even to wipe it out, the state must reconsider the policy governing student travel abroad. The door must be opened wide to such travel so that Egyptian youth may come to know the youth of the world. The complex procedures and the difficult requirements stand as an obstacle in the face of such travel.

'Isam Muhammad al-Sayyid, a second-year student at al-Azhar School of Commerce, agrees with Midhat that the youth centers are still unable to perform their important role and that these centers lack all kinds of resources, as well as discipline.

Loans a Problem

'Abd al-Hafiz 'Abd al-'Al, a fifth-year student at the Shari'a and Law College, brings up another point, saying: Two loans, amounting to 10 pounds and 15 pounds, respectively, were disbursed in the first and third year. I hope you will use more than one exclamation mark. Fifteen pounds only! What good are they and what can a third-year student buy with 15 pounds? Book costs range from 45 to 50 pounds annually. Do I buy two or three books with the loan? How can I buy the remaining books? This is an issue that raises question marks. We have repeatedly and frequently heard that it has been decided or that it is likely that the loans will be increased but have seen no increase. Therefore, and despite my dire need for the loan, I did not apply for it last year because it is good for nothing. We ask the officials to raise the loans to 40 pounds at least to cover the cost of books. On the other hand, the loans present another problem other than their meagerness. They are always disbursed late, like everything else, even though the applications are submitted at the start of the academic year. Judging by my experience with loan disbursements, I received the two previous loans only 2 months before the end of the academic year and I was reluctant to collect them because they were no longer of use or value. Moreover, the books are delivered late and you can buy them only 1 month before the examinations. So how can we study and pass? This late delivery doesn't give the student the smallest chance of comprehension or learning. These are two problems that must be settled quickly for the sake of the students' well-being.

Legitimate Right to Politics

Mu'tazz Bahjat, a senior at al-Azhar School of Commerce, says: The student is entitled to exercise his legitimate rights in politics, but only through the legitimate organizations and provided that this activity is not in conflict with the student's fundamental task, that of gaining an education. If the student does not engage in politics at an early age in the university, then where will we get politicians from? Or should we hatch them? But this engagement in politics must be within certain limits and within a sound and correct framework that permits the expression of opinion in society. No matter how great the student's talents, his political and intellectual maturity and his foresight are not at the point of maturity yet. But the officials must correct the mistakes that we can commit by holding political symposiums attended by such officials. Mu'tazz adds: There is another issue that deserves discussion because it concerns the essence of the student's time. This issue is the free time that fills our life. The problem that I and my colleagues in the Arts Committee encounter is primarily that of an inadequate budget. Often this budget is disbursed late due to the bureaucratic red tape that delays its delivery. Last year, I and my colleagues were managing the theater and the stage plays and were paying the cost of rehearsals and of clothes from our own pockets and private money. Matters even reached the point where we reserved a theater outside the university at our own expense so that our activities would not be interrupted and so that we would not end up with lots of idle time.

Another student adds that it is the right of the university student to engage in politics and to exercise his legitimate rights to this regard, especially if he is clean, has no radical inclination, isn't affiliated with the right or the left and doesn't exploit religion as a means to attain a political position. But the

question that poses itself now is: How do we realize the goal of engaging in politics without swerving from the right line? I in my turn ask: Why don't the university administrative departments organize periodic political symposiums, say once a month, attended by a government official or a cabinet minister concerned with an issue that the students want discussed so that the official can talk to the students, hear their views and explain to them any point that may be vague to them or difficult for them to grasp? Only in this way can we put our feet on the right path and wipe out any delinquency or radicalism that might develop.

But Ahmad al-Musaylihi, a fourth-year student at the Arabic Language College, opposes this view, saying: How can a student engage in politics while still a student? His thinking, regardless of how sharp, has not matured yet and his mind is not broad enough for politics yet. Politics requires full-time dedication because it demands an enormous mental effort. Some students who engage in politics on campus are often wrong and they often talk about things they don't understand. They lack a lot of information on this or that issue. This is why I demand that the university student be a seeker of learning and nothing more. When he gets his degree, he can plan his life any way he likes. The university is nothing but an academic shrine of learning and studying. As for the problem of books, al-Musaylihi says: In addition to everything my colleagues have said about book prices and about late delivery of books, we will face another problem this year, namely, we will be compelled to buy major reference books which are sold at public book shops at exorbitant prices, exceeding 5 pounds a book. But we are compelled to buy them because we need them in numerous courses, such as literature, the art of rhetoric and syntax. Even though these reference books are available at the college library, they are of no use to us. Why? Because the library is very small and has very limited space and cannot accommodate the number of students wishing to read and study in it. Consequently, we cannot use the library. Moreover, the library is not permitted to loan books to students for use outside its confines. The officials justify this on the grounds of the small number of reference books and the students' need for them. We, on our part, demand restoration of the system of outside loans as a way of reducing some of the burdens shouldered by the students. There is another issue. At the Arabic Language College, a student fund was set up to aid the students with monetary assistance. But the fund must be developed and the value of the aid must be increased. The largest sum a student can get in aid is 6 pounds. What can we buy with 6 pounds. Moreover, the aid is disbursed shortly before the examinations.

Problem of Out-of-Town Students

Regarding the problem of out-of-town students, Ahmad al-Husayni, a fourth-year student at the Arabic Language College, has said: The biggest obstacle facing out-of-town students is the problem of housing and of where to find it. Where can we stay if we don't get the chance to enroll in a university town? We acknowledge the crushing housing crisis. The rent of furnished apartments has become astronomical and unimaginable. How can I afford to live in a furnished room for no less than 30 pounds a month? This is why I prefer to commute to my village in al-Qalyubiyah Governorate daily. To my mind, the solution lies in having the universities expand the university town projects by any means and in any way possible, provided that the major part of the university budget is allocated for housing out-of-town students. It is easy for the universities to reach agreement with the governorates where they are located to rent a number of new apartment buildings or to buy

a number of such buildings, if possible, and if there are sufficient funds. Only in this way can the university spare the student great effort and the lengthy time spent searching for a furnished room or apartment. Ahmad al-Husayni also demands that consideration be given to the case of the out-of-town students and that they be housed in the university town unconditionally. Regarding the idle time that fills the youth's life, al-Husayni says: This is due to the lack of good programs, whether on radio or television, that can attract the youth. Moreover, the religious programs offered are not beneficial and are not technically convincing and fail to deal with the countless problems of youth.

Ahmad Mabruk 'Ali, a fourth-year student at the Arabic Language College, demands that the aid advanced by the university to the students be discharged promptly so that it can be useful to them. The loans and the aid are disbursed late and this forces the student to borrow and to seek the help of relatives or to try to find evening work. The officials must consider the financial circumstances of al-Azhar students and must encourage them to be models for the other youth. In the Arabic Language College, aid is given only to outstanding students, meaning students who pass all their courses, (failing) only one or two courses. This aid is advanced to students with an "acceptable" evaluation at the rate of 60 pounds [annually]. Have we reached the point where "acceptable" is considered excellence! Equality must be established among all students or else the awards must be confined to students who get an evaluation of "very good" and above.

Appeal With No Reply

'Adil al-Sayyid 'Abd al-Salam, a freshman student at the Shari'a and Law College, suffers from a problem that has almost turned chronic. He says: Upon announcement of the results last year, I was surprised to find that I had failed, despite my absolute confidence in my answers and my good work. I appealed for reexamination of the result as of the last al-Fitr holiday but no decision has been made on the appeal yet. I got the approval of the college dean but the appeal has been languishing before the control [board] chairman from that time until now. The new academic year has begun and I don't yet know what the outcome of the appeal is. When I ask about it time after time, I am told: Tomorrow, tomorrow. But how long will this go on?

A student who declined to reveal his name has said: Most of the universities do not apply the open-door policy but follow a policy of closed doors, with the secretary, second secretary, first secretary and so on [barring the way]. To be completely honest, if a student encounters a problem or experiences a crisis of any kind, he will find nobody to support him and will find himself running in a vicious circle if he tries to raise his problem with a university official because this official will refer him to another and this one to another and so on. It is like the wheel of a mill turning within a limited circle. Ultimately, the student reaches the truth about nothing. Therefore, all the closed doors must be opened so that the student can talk to his professor about his problems, his studies, his hobbies, his hopes and his aspirations. Thus, the professor becomes truly a virtuous educator and a noble father and not just an instructor.

Problem of Humanity

Three students of the Shari'a College agree on one opinion concerning a human problem. Mahmud Hamdan Mahmud, Mustafa Mahmud and Muhammad Sultan say: Al-Azhar University includes a large number of disabled students, amounting to nearly 25 percent of the total number in the theoretical colleges. These disabled students encounter a difficult problem in getting from the bus station to their colleges. The station is across the venerable al-Azhar and nearly 300 meters from the university. It is a short distance but to the disabled students, it is a problem. They are looking for someone to help them get to the university. This is why the station must be moved from across al-Azhar Mosque and established in front of the university.

Mustafa Mahmud adds that all the universities now have consumer services and that al-Azhar University branch in Nasr City also has a consumer cooperative. But no such cooperative has yet been established at al-Azhar University headquarters to serve the students. At the same time, we appeal to the officials to absolutely forbid any university employee from going to the cooperative during the academic day because this creates a problem for the student if he wants to have some paper work completed.

Now that the university youth have spoken with utter honesty and frankness about their problems inside the university campus and outside it, will we find the quick answer and the decisive solution? The students' words will certainly be received with a completely positive attitude, with welcome and without any reluctance on the part of all the officials.

[4 Nov 81 p 3]

[Article by Mahmud 'Arif and Rif'at Mahrus]

[Text] A study of Egyptian youth in this particular time and under the canopy of the internal and external challenges facing Egypt is an extremely important scientific and national work.

Our society is trying to preserve the sails of its reliable ship amidst tumultuous and clashing storms. This depends on the leadership of a skilled captain and a crew with strong arms and will. Egypt lacks none of them.

Today we meet with the youth, but in an academic and scientific study conducted by the Alexandria University professors within the framework of the social and economic development plan. The study was supervised by Dr 'Ali Rida al-Hunaydi, former president of Alexandria University.

It is a study from a close and honest angle. Our presentation of this study does not signify a conclusion to the series of reports presented by AL-AKHBAR. Rather, it is tantamount to an invitation for further discussions that would constitute the start for serious action in a serious phase that requires the cooperation and solidarity of all of society's factions, of all serious and sincere people and of all researchers.

Youth Is Strength for Society

The study says that there is an almost universal interest in youth at present, considering that the concept of youth is the subject of attention and analysis in both the advanced and the developing societies. The main reason for this universal interest is the strength that youth represent for society as a whole.

The study supports President Husni Mubarak's stress on the need to get the youth involved in all spheres of life.

The research sample covered by the study totaled 10,000 persons distributed throughout the republic, including students, farmers, professionals, craftsmen, workers in the field of industrial production, administrative employees and housewives in the youth range (18-30 years). The study has tried to shed light on several aspects of Egyptian youth's attitudes.

The first thing the study concerned itself with was to discover youth's attitudes toward the functions of education.

The result is that there are four positive aspects:

The cultural function of education, through which the youth's cultural standard is enhanced so that they can participate positively in changing the conditions of the environment surrounding them.

The study shows that 49.75 percent agree that the present system graduates vigilant generations, that 31.45 percent do not agree that education is performing its cultural function and that the remaining percentage ranges between approval and disapproval. These data reveal the need to reconsider the content of current educational programs so that education can contribute to cultural awareness among the youth by focusing on the principle of integrated knowledge, by devoting greater attention to quality than to quantity and by contributing directly to eradicating the illiteracy of the educated by strengthening their comprehensive knowledge of the various aspects of life. One of the most important tasks of the educational system is to develop among the youth a sense of responsibility toward themselves and toward their society in a way that makes them participate in the process of rebuilding this society. The attitude of the youth in all of the governorates indicates that the educational system is still incapable of realizing this task.

The study also believes that one of the most important tasks of the educational system is to remold the youth's political awareness. The phrase "political awareness" refers to youth's awareness of the historical political reality of their society. Political awareness is a fundamental part of the general cultural awareness. The educational system contributes to the development of this general cultural awareness and all of the information media, art and literature help enhance and promote this awareness.

Surveying Youth Opinions

The study also believes that programs to develop youth's political awareness depend on studies conducted to survey youth's opinions and attitudes and to understand their problems with the aim of developing those principles that satisfy youth's

needs and that, at the same time, enhance their awareness of the social reality surrounding them. The development of this awareness must be based on careful scientific planning in which the educational system constitutes one of the mainstays contributing to this goal.

Moreover, youth must learn skills and (crafts) that qualify them to utilize their abilities beneficially. Education must help develop the citizen's personality in a complete manner and must pay attention to the citizen's intellect and culture while developing his ability for manual work. As they are instructed on the principles of the fundamental sciences, the youth must also be given instruction on skills and crafts that qualify them to engage in productive activity in industry, agriculture, transportation and construction.

One of the most significant negative aspects of the educational system, in the view of the youth, is that it does not develop an ability for creativity and inventiveness, that it doesn't give enough respect to manual crafts and skills and doesn't take into consideration society's real needs.

One of the most important aspects underlined by the study is the state's dire need for an overwhelming majority of skilled workers and a minority of intellectual workers. This means that technical education must be expanded beyond its present scope and preparations for higher education must be confined to a minority that proves its readiness for this type of education. One obstacle to this objective is that both the urban and the rural Egyptian family still insists on seeing its children go through university or higher education. This is connected, of course, with the social status that the children attain through this kind of education.

Majority Prefers Medicine

As for higher education, youth's attitudes show that they prefer the medical, engineering, scientific and technological professions generally, followed by literature, law and social studies.

The youth still insist on attaining a higher education because the parents prefer this kind of education. The study asked the parents an important question: Do you prefer your son to acquire a college degree, despite the low wages earned by university graduates? The percentage of parents saying yes was 83.03. This point requires attention so that an awareness of society's needs, and also of the financial rewards, can be spread and so that viewpoints do not continue to be narrow-minded.

Religion Is Protection From Delinquency

We now move to another important issue, namely, youth's religious attitudes. We find here that an apparent attitude has begun to develop among the youth, namely, the attitude that the religious education they receive is not adequate to create an enlightened climate encouraging them to cling to the teachings of their religion and that the bases of this education are not qualitatively, quantitatively and in terms of performance adequately compatible with the importance of the spiritual and religious aspect of man and with the conditions of the age.

An important question that this study asks is: How do we confront the currents hostile to Egyptian youth?

Specific questions are raised before the answer is given: What are these currents?

[Are they] the patterns hostile to the way of life that are prevalent in society?

Are they currents hostile to the prevalent values, to the [established] balance, to security and to the existing system?

Then comes the answer to the question: These currents can be confronted primarily through positive education and information, or an enlightened philosophy, and through a balance between the policy of firmness on one hand and greater democratic activity on the other.

As for youth and the international currents, a real and suitable policy must be formulated to protect our youth from the negative aspects of the international currents without isolating them from the positive aspects that demand a better society and call for rebellion against warmongers and the enemies of peace, stability and progress.

Specialists say that this youth policy must depend on a number of mainstays, the most important being:

Instilling greater confidence in the youth by giving them the opportunity to shoulder the responsibilities and burdens of dealing with some of the major problems from which they suffer, such as the spread of diseases and the means of protection through the adoption of certain sanitary precautions.

Increasing youth participation in the economic and social development plans.

Serious Impact of Information Media

The study also focused on the role and impact of the information media on the Egyptian youth and on how compatible the media are with development.

Regarding the press, the youth have demanded that the newspapers publish clear reports because news reports are the main nourishment for public opinion. Without them, this public opinion cannot exist.

They have also demanded that the papers follow up on the news reports they publish and explain them in a way that helps the reader form an opinion. The youth have also demanded that the papers abide by the following criteria:

Safeguarding the prevalent national morale by not publishing anything that harms or undermines this morale and by seeking the truth in dealing with national problems.

Steering clear of trivialities and devoting attention to issues of a public nature and issues compatible with the public interest.

If education has its role, then the media also have a role to help the citizen familiarize himself with the information and the facts that he needs to keep in touch with society and with the age in which he lives.

As for radio, the youth believe that its goals are:

To achieve a degree of uniform thinking, goals and values aimed at realizing cohesion in society, at protecting youth from fragmentation and delinquency and at realizing society's social security.

To bolster a sound democratic spirit by encouraging youth to become interested in public issues and in society's causes.

To curtail fanaticism and to eliminate all kinds of discrimination.

As for television, its impact on youth attitudes, behavior and values and its role in the process of social change, the study proves that television is effective in making viewers aware of the facts and of the dimensions of social problems.

Where Is Youth Press?

The study calls for publishing a special youth paper that depicts the youth's real problems, hopes, aspirations, needs and demands and that presents their views and proposals. The number of those who support the idea of such a newspaper amounts to 74 percent of the total number of people sampled by the study. In some governorates, such as Alexandria, the number reached 80 percent.

Third Task of University

The study recommends that attention be devoted to the so-called "third task" of the university, which, in addition to teaching and research, is the task of advice and guidance so that the university can contain the youths, with their various tendencies and attitudes, through special guidance programs designed to deal with the problems and needs of the youth and through the presence of a special youth guidance agency. This should be done with the aim of making the students feel, through these programs, real belonging to the university and a bond with the national values that the university advocates.

Another point is the need to reexamine the public service programs so as to allow the youth to participate in national projects and to make them shoulder greater responsibilities in this regard.

Attention should be devoted to the [student] families and to developing their programs so that they can play a vital role.

Religious education should be streamlined so that it can take a constructive, not destructive, direction through an emphasis on religious values.

Creating Proper Climate

Through this serious and practical study of the opinions of the youth in the various sectors, we reach the important point that Egyptian youth are prepared to

shoulder their full responsibility and to participate vigilantly and positively in the development of society, provided the right climate is created for this participation so as to make use of the energies of the youth.

The mosques and houses of worship are still performing their conventional role as places for the performance of religious rites only. A clear attitude has emerged among the youth stressing the need to reconsider the message of the mosque and of the houses of worship. The youth have shown that they are not hostile to religion and to its teachings. But it has become certain that the youth, especially the educated among them, believe in the spirit of research and of questioning and in the principle of persuasion and conviction. They also believe in the need to develop the system of religious guidance.

Then come the recommendations.

The study recommends:

That greater efforts be exerted to deal with the economic problem through the continued realization of a balance between income levels and inflation rates. The base on which this balance is founded is production. A comprehensive study must be made of the obstacles impeding production.

That the state youth welfare agencies devote attention to studying ways to utilize the free time of the youth, to make use of their energy and to meet their needs by providing them with suitable work in their free time. This develops in the youth the sense of responsibility and self-reliance. It may also contribute to meeting their needs and to reducing the family's burdens and commitments toward its children.

That the values of (belonging and loyalty to the homeland) be bolstered through village enhancement and by developing the means of production and improving social, educational and health services in order to enhance agriculture, which is one of the mainstays of comprehensive economic development. This is in addition to paying attention to realizing stability for industrial, technical and managerial labor through the systems of production incentives and extra benefits offered by all the establishments and organizations.

That attention be devoted to graduating youth capable of serving their local society and equipped with knowledge and skills compatible with the local environment.

That the phenomenon of emigration and migration be studied so that society does not lose the youth for whose training and education it has paid a lot. This should be done by giving youth the opportunities to develop their talents, by encouraging the youth financially and morally to utilize their capabilities to enhance their society and by bolstering youth's feelings of affiliation.

That new cities be built on the basis of careful scientific planning so as to make them an element of attraction, not of repulsion. The help of the youth must be employed in carrying out such development projects.

Spiritual Capability

That the clergymen, educators, parents and intellectuals utilize and strengthen the youth's spiritual capability by enlightening the youth on the affairs of their religion. This should be done through the method of inducement, not intimidation, which embraces the more comprehensive view of religion as an effective means of educating the youth and of kindling in them the spirit of work, cooperation and sacrifice to achieve society's major goals and through an understanding and vigilant conceptualization of religion's main message of creating virtuous men. This is also done by disseminating the awareness necessary to support the government plans and programs or to criticize them in a positive and constructive way that leads to the enhancement of development. It is also necessary to steer clear of blind fanaticism and to be open to the requirements and circumstances of the age. All this is necessary for the success of the clergymen's educational, secular and national task. The ministries and educational agencies concerned with the affairs of the clergymen must also exert greater efforts in training and preparing the clergymen, not only academically and religiously but also educationally and socially and in terms of bolstering the clergymen's understanding of the problems of the age.

The study also asserts that there is a malicious scheme that has led the youth to believe that the rigid and fanatic form of religious behavior cures spiritual problems. This behavior, which is displayed by this [radical] faction, is a defeatist attitude that produces no solution.

There still remains more than one important point in this serious study, including:

The need to underline Egypt's national character in the various information material.

The need to devote attention to the public's actual requirements and to consider these requirements the starting point for planning the information programs. The study also underlines the need to abandon the goals connected with private profit and opportunism.

To conclude, the youth have defined their problems and have discussed them frankly. The university has had its say. The men of the venerable al-Azhar have laid down the bases of sound behavior from childhood and throughout life.

It is certain that the youth cannot make society by themselves. It is also clear that the other groups in society cannot monopolize the action. A happy society is the society that finds the right formula that kindles confidence and hope in the hearts of all.

Youth are a constant and ever-renewed issue that demands that we move among the youth and with them at a fast and organized pace to confront any problem and to channel their vital energy along a constructive path.

All the opinions lead us to an old and wise proverb that says: An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.

8494

CSO: 4504/90

NATIONALIST LEFT EXPRESSES SUPPORT FOR MUBARAK'S POLICIES

Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 2 Dec 81 p 7

[Article by Mahmud Tawfiq, lawyer and poet representing the nationalist left:
"Where Does Nationalist Left Stand Vis-a-vis Current Events in Egypt"]

[Text] The phrase "patriotic left" has been often repeated in recent years in contrast this left with and distinguish it from the reckless left." In this sense and within its limits, we accept the phrase.

The "patriotic left" has always urged the need for our national and social struggle to open up to the struggles of all the other peoples, to the experiences of the age and to every human heritage. But the "patriotic left" has always remained loyal primarily to the interests of our Egyptian people and our Arab nation, sending its roots deep into the soil of our land and always seeking its inspiration from the heritage, feelings, traditions, and struggle of our people. The archenemy of the "patriotic left" in Egypt is the adventurous left. With its lack of a sense of responsibility, its radicalism, and its intellectual escapades, its remoteness from reality and its rash actions, the adventurous left distorts the position of the entire left, exposes it to the gravest danger and imposes on it fabricated isolation from its masses and from the general course of the national struggle. Those who have called for submission to the whims of this adventurous left and for meeting with it under the pretext of exerting efforts to realize the "unity of the left" have always brought the gravest harm to themselves and to the entire left.

The "patriotic left," by virtue of its absolute loyalty to the thought and course of democracy, is one of the archenemies of violence, terrorism, and assassination. It is against such acts in principle, whatever the reasons for the acts. The patriotic left believes that the first things that such acts hit are the interests of the people themselves and the struggle of the people to realize their goals. The "patriotic left" also believes that the masses themselves are the only force capable of realizing the goals of freedom, justice and progress and that there is no individual and no elite group of any kind capable of or entitled to realize the people's goals for them or in spite of them. If we permit an individual or a group, whatever their stripe or weight, to impose its will on the people, then it is our duty, and with greater reason, to let the state defeat the will of the people. This is what the patriotic left and all the democratic forces oppose. As state violence generates terrorism, terrorism generates state violence and the people pay the price in all cases.

These considerations alone, without the need for any more, are enough for us to stress that the "patriotic left" condemns and denounces with utter firmness the crime of assassination of President Anwar al-Sadat and the accompanying and subsequent terroristic attempts and acts.

Many have explained and analyzed the phenomenon of terror and violence, trying to understand its real causes and the correct means of overcoming it. President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has also explained and interpreted all this in some of his speeches. All these efforts have attributed this phenomenon to numerous and deep causes connected with intellectual, cultural, political, economic, and social factors. All this is correct and need not be repeated. But we want to add here one point that we believe to be a fundamental factor in fighting the tendencies of political violence and terrorism in all its forms and from all sources. The point is our society's urgent need for further democratic development and for a democratic climate.

The incidents of sectarian sedition experienced by the country in recent years and the recent acts of terrorism have been tied to the growth of radical religious tendencies.

A return to adherence to religious tolerance, which is one of the greatest accomplishments and traditions of the Egyptian national movement, and entrenchment of the concept that religion is for God and the homeland is for all comprise the way to escape religious fanaticism and its grave consequences. Entrenchment of democratic principles and of fundamental human liberties, by underlining the freedom of thought, faith, opinion and expression, is the way to create a healthy democratic climate that guarantees to the furthest limit possible the elimination of religious fanaticism, radicalism, and terroristic tendencies. This is the basis on which the efforts for political, economic, social, and cultural reform can bear their full and desired fruits.

The broad participation by our people's masses in the latest referendum and the overwhelming majority vote saying yes to the selection of Muhammad Husni Mubarak as president of the republic have been tantamount to a positive and vigilant position on the part of these masses. Fundamentally, this position is a practical expression of our people's firm opposition to religious fanaticism, radicalism, and bloody violence and terrorism. There is no better proof of this than the fact that some of the opposition factions, such as the Socialist Labor Party, the independents and a section of the nationalis left, have adopted this position despite their opposition to many of the ruling party's positions and policies even though it was understood that the nominated president would continue these positions and policies. This was a principled position of the greatest courage, vigilance, and awareness of a sense of responsibility on the part of those who adopted it while in the trenches of the opposition. In contrast, success has deserted those who called for voting no to the election of Mubarak on the grounds of their opposition to the previous policies, which Mubarak has declared he will continue, and who considered their call to be a principled position. These people committed an obvious mistake in their understanding of a principled position meriting higher consideration. They thus swerved from the position of the masses and confirmed their isolation from the masses. They also confirmed their inability to comprehend changing realities and to respond to

these changes. Their demand that the presidential candidate declare before his election that he would change the regime's fundamental policies, including abandonment of the peace policy and abrogation of the peace treaties, as a condition for their support of his election was no more than a kind of aberration and of a debilitating condition that no rational person could accept. The demand was also at the time more of a justification for opposition to the election of the new president than a serious demand that meant what it called for. The reason for this mistake is the intellectual rigidity and submission to tendencies and whims of the adventurous and childish left in order to win its approval.

Our people's masses, and the vigilant and responsible opposition, have been rewarded for this objective, sincere, and constructive position. The initial speeches, statements and decisions by President Mubarak have quickly revealed new tendencies that meet with our people's wishes and with their deep sentiments. These tendencies represent in their entirety a new political line based on reconciling the necessities of continuation on one hand with the necessities of change on the other.

President Mubarak has announced that he is committed to the Egyptian peace policy and to the international treaties and agreements concluded by Egypt, including the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty. However, he has at the same time declared Egypt's openness and welcome to any new Arab or international initiatives seeking to find a better solution for the Palestinian problem as the basis for a comprehensive and final solution to the problem of the Arab-Israeli conflict. In preparation for this, President Mubarak declared his decision, which he has actually implemented, to stop the propaganda campaigns against other Arab countries and even not to answer any campaign of the sort [launched against Egypt]. He has also declared that Egypt will not adopt a hostile position toward any Arab state. All this is likely to open the road to a new situation in the Arab arena, which may have its positive impact on the search for a comprehensive and just peace. In view of this new position, it is the duty of the Egyptian opposition, including the "patriotic left," to freeze its previous disagreements with and opposition to the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty and to intensify its efforts to realize and develop the new line.

President Mubarak has also declared his resolution to take Egypt back to the policy of nonalignment and of positive neutrality and his resolve to achieve friendship and cooperation between Egypt and all countries in a manner that safeguards Egypt's independence and free will and that puts Egypt's national interests above all considerations. This is the correct basis for realizing our national and pan-Arab interests and the basis on which the will of all the nationalists in our country can be united.

In the sphere of internal policy, President Mubarak has declared a fundamental line based on the principle that Egypt belongs to all of its citizens without discrimination. He has also declared his resolve to broaden and entrench democratic action and to respect the opinion of both the majority and the minority. He has also urged everyone to help with opinion and with action to solve the country's problems. In this respect, President Mubarak has also declared his resolve that the state of emergency will be employed only within the narrowest

limits to confront the dangers of terrorist activity and will not continue a single day longer than required by the utmost need.

As for the citizens detained at the beginning of last September, President Mubarak has asserted that he has given instructions for a speedy conclusion of the interrogations being conducted with them and has already released those against whom the interrogations have proven nothing.

With all these principles, President Mubarak is laying foundations guaranteeing the rise of a new situation on our domestic front--a situation characterized by political justice, realization of the citizens' dignity and unification of their will and by an opening of the door to serious efforts to solve the country's problems in the shortest time and through the most peaceful means.

While declaring continuation of the open-door policy, President Mubarak has also declared his resolve to transform this open-door policy into an open-door production policy that seeks to strengthen the national economy and to realize the interests of the broad toiling masses. With this policy, matters will be set aright insofar as our economic and social policies in their entirety are concerned. The sharp difference prevalent between the government and the opposition over the open-door policy will also be confined to the narrowest limits.

President Mubarak has also announced his definite resolve to fight all forms of exploitation, deviation, laxity, social injustice, hypocrisy and deception--diseases that have spread in the country, that have reached the point where they threaten every effort with failure. The manifestations and dangers of these diseases have intensified under the canopy of the open-door consumer policy and the canopy of the values and ethics tied to this open-door policy.

Finally, President Mubarak has announced the start of a new phase of serious work and has called for the unity of ranks, for broad popular participation and for the intensification of efforts to find effective, fundamental solutions to all the chronic and complex problems from which the country suffers and which threaten the life of the broad toiling masses of our people.

This new line opens the door wide to all national forces and to all of the sincere and honorable elements in Egypt to work in dignity and with a united will to build modern Egypt, an Egypt of freedom, dignity, justice, and prosperity.

The "patriotic left" is glad to hasten to shake the hand that President Mubarak has extended to all the honorable national forces in Egypt, supporting the president and pledging to work with him sincerely to realize this policy, to bring it success, and to develop it.

Those who call for waiting or for moving deliberately until all these policies are implemented before they declare their support for President Mubarak are committing a grave mistake. If these policies are to be realized first, then what is the use of their supporting them afterwards?

Realizing these policies is no easy matter. They require years and years of effort and of confronting hardships, not by President Mubarak alone but by all of the people with all of their national factions and sincere elements. It is the battle of destiny and of the future of our people and our coming generations. The nationalist left must prove its presence, its ability, and its sincere efforts to enable our people to win this battle.

8494

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COURT OF VALUES ORDERS DETENTION OF RASHAD 'UTHMAN IN SAFE HOUSE

Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 7 Dec 81 pp 1, 2

[Article by Hamdi Handal: "Rashad 'Uthman Detained"]

[Text] The Court of Values has decided to detain Rashad 'Uthman in a safe house for a period of 1 year as of yesterday and has instructed the socialist prosecutor to carry out the order.

The court issued its decision after the first session in the trial of Rashad 'Uthman. The session, held under the chairmanship of counselor Dr Ahmad Rif'at Khafaji, lasted 6 hours.

'Uthman denied the charges made against him and his defense counsel said that the issue is that of journalist Ibrahim Sa'dah, chief editor of AKHBAR AL-YAWM and MAYU, because he, and not the socialist prosecutor, is the one who has brought the charges before the court.

Counselor Husni 'Abd al-Hamid, assistant socialist prosecutor, recounted Rashad 'Uthman's story, saying that his fall means the fall of one of the fronts of oppression, degeneration, corruption, exploitation, and deviation.

Counselor 'Abd al-Hamid said that Rashad 'Uthman began his [working] life as a day laborer at Alexandria Port and started his business activity in 1964, forming with his father a lumber company with a capital of 150 pounds. The counselor also said that the company made a monthly profit of 14 pounds.

In 1969, 'Uthman admitted that his business activity had not changed and that only one worker was in his employ.

His financial situation did not change in 1973 either.

In 1974, 'Uthman's income escalated as a result of a drug deal and he found his way to the banks and to the Land Registry Office, exploiting the weapon of money.

The assistant socialist prosecutor reviewed eight acts attributed to the defendant:

Al'Ma'murah apartments: The defendant acquired three apartments from Dr Na'im Abu Talib, the former governor of Alexandria: One of them in his name, the other in his sister's name and the third in the name of his deceased father.

He also acquired a written recommendation from Counselor 'Umar 'Abd al-Akhir, minister of People's Assembly affairs, to the chairman of the Board of Directors of al-Ma'murah Company that the three apartments be adjacent to his [presumably the minister's], citing in his recommendation specific numbers.

The minister himself corrected the name of the deceased father with another name.

Transgression against state-owned property: In April 1979, Rashad 'Uthman presented a statement to the Tax Agency acknowledging his seizure of empty and fenced land with an area of 45 feddans in Umm Zuhayr area on which to store his lumber. He then submitted a request for purchase of the land.

In June, 'Uthman acknowledged his seizure of 6 feddans of land in Kanj Maryut, which then became 100 feddans. There are investigations proving that the land seized is 575 feddans.

He also seized 10 other fenced feddans in the industrial zone located at the beginning of the Alexandria-Cairo desert highway.

He was able to have water and electricity supplied to this land for a small fee by claiming that the area amounted to only 100 square meters to evade the set fee, amounting to 50 piasters per meter. The total sum of the fees [he would have had to pay] was 207,275 pounds.

Evasion of social security: He has reported only one-fifth the number of workers in his employ and has paid social security fees for only one-fifth of their wages. The sum he owes to social security totals 49,630 pounds.

Real estate: He has bought apartments occupied by the general intelligence in Alexandria and Qasr al-Dubarah School in Cairo for trivial sums. The difference in the price [he paid and the market value] is 5 million pounds, which have been lost to the state without any fees paid for them.

Tax evasion: He has swindled the state out of its right to taxes amounting to 6,479,000 pounds.

Monopolization: He has acquired the right to monopolize 2,150 square meters to which he has added (1,000) more meters.

Forty-Five Millions in 1 Year!

The assistant socialist prosecutor presented to the court documents proving that the volume of Rashad 'Uthman's transactions in 1980 alone amounted to 45 million pounds.

The assistant socialist prosecutor added that 'Uthman became possessed by such an obsession that he demolished four houses in Alexandria, one of them owned by an economics professor presently working in Abu Dhabi.

He then asked the prosecutor to detain Rashad 'Uthman in a safe house until the state agencies are able to eliminate the transgressions he has committed without any resistance from him or from his followers.

Defense Counsel: Issue of Ibrahim Sa'dah

Dr 'Abd al-Mun'im al-Sharqawi, the defense counsel, described the case as being the issue of Ibrahim Sa'dah, saying that Sa'dah had published several articles in AKHBAR AL-YAWM on the "fortunate one" and launched several campaigns against 'Uthman and stressing that Sa'dah was behind the decision to withdraw Rashad 'Uthman's immunity.

Al-Sharqawi then reviewed paragraphs from the articles that Ibrahim Sa'dah had written.

Where Are Documents?

The defense counsel then demanded that documents proving the charges made against Rashad 'Uthman, including the charge of smuggling drugs in two wood (consignments) received at Alexandria Port, be presented.

He said: We have obtained testimony from the port that there have been no (consignments) at all in the name of Rashad 'Uthman.

Dr Jamal al-'Utayfi joined the defense to say that the issue is one of documents and that the documents are incomplete so far. He demanded that the case be considered very carefully.

The court then issued its decision to detail Rashad 'Uthman in a safe house for 1 year, to notify the witnesses and to postpone the case until the 20th of the current month of December.

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CSO: 4504/123

SALARIES OF CIVIL SERVANTS ON LOAN ABROAD ADJUSTED

Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 7 Dec 81 pp 1, 9

[Article: "Wages of Egyptians Loaned to Other Countries to be Set on Basis of Dividing Countries Into Three Zones"]

[Text] Dr Fu'ad Muhyi al'Din, first deputy prime minister, has issued a decree raising the wages of Egyptians loaned to other countries whose wages are paid by the government while on loan on the basis of the basic salary paid at home to the loaned employee at the time when the loan decision is made. This will be done on the basis of dividing the countries into the following three groups:

Employees loaned to Japan, Belgium, Switzerland, France, West Germany, Britain, the United States, the UAE, Oman, Qatar, Algeria, Lebanon, Kuwait, Mozambique, Ivory Coast, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Zimbabwe, North Korea, Spain, Netherlands, Italy, Sweden, Chile, Argentina, and Canada. The first segment of these loaned employees, who earned a salary of less than 45 pounds monthly, will be paid 150 pounds. The second segment, which has been earning salaries of more than 100 pounds, will be paid 262 pounds.

Employees loaned to Yemen, Libya, South Yemen, Bahrain, Mauritania, Tunisia, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Somalia, Guinea-Bissau, Guinea, Cameroon, Senegal, Congo, Upper Volta, Central Africa, Chad, Ivory Coast, Mauritius, Nigeria, China, Bangladesh, Hong Kong, Laos, Iran, Vietnam, Australia, East Germany, the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Austria, Denmark, Netherlands, Norway, Greece, Ireland, Cuba, Guatemala, Mexico, Brazil, Iraq, Syria, Zaire, Togo, Mali, Burundi, Nigeria, Liberia, Ethiopia, Madagascar, Angola, Comoro Islands, Turkey, Sierra Leone, Kenya, Singapore, Thailand, Philippines, Indonesia, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Romania, Hungary, Poland, Malta, Portugal, Cyprus, El Salvador, Panama, and Ecuador will be paid 143 pounds for the first segment, 195 pounds for the second segment, and 232 pounds for the third segment.

Employees loaned to Sudan, Zambia, Ghana, Uganda, Tanzania, India, Malaysia, Nepal, Burma, Sri Lanka, Albania, Bulgaria, and Colombia will be paid 105 pounds for the first segment, 158 pounds for the second segment, and 195 pounds for the third segment.

The decree also stipulates that the government should the travel expenses of the loaned employee and his family and their medical expenses in case the country to

which they are loaned does not pay such expenses. In case the country to which the employee is loaned does not provide a free residence or a housing allowance for the loaned employee, then he shall be paid 70 pounds monthly for the countries of the first group, 45 pounds for the countries of the second group, and 38 pounds for the countries of the third group. A mission chairman and deputy chairman will be paid a representation allowance amounting to 25 percent of the basic salary set for each of them at home or they will keep the representation allowance they collected at home before being loaned, whichever is higher.

The travel expenses shouldered by the government on behalf of the loaned employee and his family will amount to the full price of four tickets, maximum. The government will also shoulder the medical expenses of the loaned employee and of his family members according to the regulations in force.

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CSO: 4504/123

EVENTS IN BAHRAIN REGARDED AS 'PLOT OF NEWS IMPERIALISM'

Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 22 Dec 81 p 12

[Text] Following the defeat of the Fez Conference and the elimination of the Fahd plan an extensive propaganda began against the Islamic Revolution, the Islamic Republic of Iran and progressive countries in the Middle East. These propagandistic developments assume new dimensions with the continuous defeats suffered by Saddam in the war and each day sees fresh plots through imperialist news against the Islamic Republic of Iran with the help of U.S. "tails" in the region.

One of the new examples of this propaganda plot was a news item carried last week by Western news agencies based on a claim by the government of Bahrain. According to the news item the Bahrain government alleged that a number of its citizens have received military training in Iran and that this group had intended to carry out a series of operations to overthrow the Bahrain government on Wednesday, 16 December, and to establish Islamic rule. This news item coincided with Saddam's claims that Iraqi Prisoners of War were murdered in Iran and thereafter was kept alive and pushed by all Imperialist-Zionist propaganda outlets.

'Abdallah Basharah, secretary-general of the (Persian) Gulf Cooperation Council, also entered the game and carried on this imperialist propaganda program through interviews and lies against the Islamic Republic of Iran. After him the Saudi regime stepped in and signed a security pact with the government of Bahrain.

Quoting news agency reports from Manama, the Central News Unit reported that Saudi Interior minister Amir Nayyef had arrived in that capital to sign a security pact with Bahrain. During his 2-day stay in Bahrain Nayif would discuss the security of that country and the unsuccessful coup attempt with his Bahrain counterpart. According to statements by Bahrain authorities, those involved in the coup attempt were trained and armed in Iran. The propaganda wave launched Iran's Islamic Revolution through Imperialist-Zionist radio broadcasts and the press concerning this news item demonstrates the propaganda war which world imperialism wages against the Islamic Republic of Iran and progressive governments in the Middle East.

Imperialism's propaganda fight against the Islamic Republic of Iran started with the victory of the revolution and up until now has shown itself in various events and situations. Basically, one of the most important methods used by world imperialism against the Islamic Republic is through imperialist news and propaganda techniques because the enemy has realized that our revolution carries a message and it is the Islamic voice and message of the revolution that draw the oppressed masses toward it. The weapon of the Islamic revolution is the word 'unification' which has been transmitted throughout the world by Imam Khomeyni, the founding leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran. In order to void and misrepresent the unification message the enemy carries on an extensive propaganda program in the region with the cooperation and financial aid of puppet governments of the United States. The reactionary regimes in the region provide the most extensive financial help to imperialist news dissemination and prepare the way for propaganda campaigns against the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Since the victory of the Islamic revolution the enemy has conducted hostile propaganda against various programs with the cooperation and help of puppet regimes linked to the West, the basic objectives are the following:

1. To fan the flames of local nationalist trends and to start a blind socialism in order to counter the Islamic and Islamic unity movements. This reached its peak with Saddam's war against the Islamic Republic of Iran. The propaganda about 'Qadesiyeh' and the war between the Arabs and Persians is an example of this technique.
2. To attempt the isolation of Iran through propaganda which portrays it as being linked with the eastern major power [USSR] or having ties with the occupier of the Holy Place, such as news of arms purchases from Israel and the extensive propaganda carried on in broadcasts by imperialist and Zionist radios and those of reactionary regimes.
3. Full support for fled counterrevolutionaries and continuous interviews with them in order to prevent them from being permanently forgotten. In such interviews, news imperialism injects its propaganda line through the mouths of Bakhtiar, Bani-Sadr, Rajavi, Ali Amini, Oveysi, and other counterrevolutionaries, attempts to portray Iran as economically bankrupt and to show that chaos and a lack of security reigns full force in Iran.
4. From the time of the victory of the revolution all the propaganda facilities of imperialism, Zionism and reactionary regimes of the region were mobilized in order to deface the image of the leader of the Islamic revolution and as far as possible to propagate lies about the Imam. News imperialism has come to realize the extent of the influence of the leader of the Islamic revolution: that Imam Khomeyni has found a place in the hearts of the oppressed of the world who, by hearing the Imam's message, have risen and are threatening the grasping world order.

Because of this, rumor and lie-mongering by news agencies against the leader of the revolution has become an axis of their propaganda since the victory of the Islamic revolution. The recent propaganda campaign, too, comes after continuous defeats of Saddam in the fighting front. It is interesting to note that the radio of the regime occupying the Holy Place, that is the official Zionist medium, in its Arabic broadcasts, has also portrayed recent events in Bahrain as plotting acts of Iran

in that country. Joining its voice with the loudspeakers of reactionaries in the region, this radio station had this to say in one of its commentaries: "Those detained in Bahrain on charges of sabotage have been trained in the Islamic Republic of Iran..." Following this broadcast, Radio Riyadh repeated the same words. The Zionist radio has also included in its commentary instigatory remarks concerning Islamic Republic of Iran's relations with its Persian Gulf neighbors similar in technique to those used by news imperialism.

The events in Bahrain have given new food for the propaganda bugles of Zionism and the world grasper which refer to the Islamic Republic of Iran as an expansionist country that meddles in the internal affairs of others and attempts to use such propaganda campaigns to interpret and portray the export of revolution the way they want.

The constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran stresses that the government of the Islamic Republic has not and will not interfere in the internal affairs of any of its neighbors and the leader of the revolution made the following remarks in his last week's address: "With all the power that Iran has and with all the power, God willing, it will have, it does not have in mind to carry out an aggression against another nation and another country. Iran will use its power to support other Muslims." Our foreign policy, too, conforms with the remarks of the Imam and the constitution.

The propaganda which is now being whipped by U.S. imperialism, the Zionists and the reactionaries of the region intends to portray the Islamic Republic of Iran as a threat to the independence of neighboring countries of the region, thus creating fear and panic among people and justifying the aggressive policies of the United States and its tools. What is certain is that such futile developments cannot resist the rolling flood of the revolution and such propaganda shows will not have any effect on the risen oppressed who each day become better informed and familiar with the nature of those with linkage. It would be proper if the neighbors of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the Persian Gulf--instead of helping news imperialism, cooperating with foreign loudspeakers and being duped by the United States and the occupier of the Holy Place--become aware of the true nature of the Islamic revolution and realize that Islamic Iran desires the unity of all Muslims and victory over imperialism, Zionism and their tools.

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SOUTHERN FISHERIES REPORT PLANS FOR INCREASED PRODUCTION

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 15 Dec 81 p 13

[Interview with Habibollah Haddah, managing director of the Southern Fisheries Co]

[Text] Habibollah Haddah, managing director of the Southern Fisheries Company, took part in a press and radio-television interview yesterday, and informed reporters concerning future planning for the southern fisheries, the activities of the company the level of fishing, and the method of implementing the five to ten-year fisheries program.

According to the report of KEYHAN's economic correspondent, he first pointed to the role of the southern fisheries during the past regime, and said: The fisheries was an organization at the core of an affiliated regime. Of course it must be pointed out that this industry can of itself perform a valuable role in severing dependency and providing protein needed by the public. He added: This industry's direction must now be completely changed, so that by providing services to the fishermen, they will be assured of fishing work. This policy, through the cooperation of the committed brothers of the southern fisheries, has been incorporated in the company's new charter.

He then said: Ten-year planning has been done for the future of the southern fisheries. A five-year plan has been included at the core of this program. Furthermore, pursuant to these two important plans, programs for 1982-1983 have also been prepared and are ready for implementation. Haddad added: World and Iranian experts have forecast that our share of the marine life resources in the Persian Gulf and the Sea of Oman could be 400,000 tons annually. During the course of the five-year program, a growth of 230,000 tons has been proposed, 130,000 tons of which belongs to industrial fishing and 100,000 tons to traditional fishing. Haddad added: During the course of the ten-year plan, the construction of seven complexes along 1,800 kilometers of coastline has been proposed for traditional fishing. These seven complexes will be set up in Chahbahar, Konarak, Jasak, Bandar 'Abbas, Lengeh, Nakhle Taqi, 'Asaluyeh, Bushehr and Khunin-shahr. Complete fishing facilities have been considered for these seven complexes, including freezing tunnels, freezers, fish meal factories, launch-repair shops, spare parts storage, chandlers, piers and all other necessary facilities. Similarly, six smaller complexes will be built in Hendijan, Gonaveh, Magham, Qeshm, Kolahi and Gorgan. Complete fishing facilities have also been foreseen for these six complexes. He also said: In the framework of the ten-year program, all the fishing villages in the south, which number about 44,

will be placed under the coverage of fishing shelters. Haddad added: Programs for the year from March 1982 to March 1983 have also been prepared, and the necessary credit has been provided. In this year's plan, obtaining from 38 to 40 thousand tons of fish in the country's southern waters is foreseen. Of course this quantity of fishing is now being done, but a portion of it is purchased through middlemen, and is sold at exorbitant prices in the free market. Another portion is also sold in the sheikhdoms. However, in the March 1982-March 1983 year, this entire quantity of fish will be delivered by fishermen. In the planning for this year, about 280 tons of freezing tunnel capacity will be built, 410 tons of capacity will be added to ice-making plants, and the necessary equipment for desalinizing 310 cubic meters of water will be built and put into operation. Six thousand seven hundred tons of capacity will be added to freezers in the south for the preservation of fish. A fish meal factory with a 200-ton daily capacity will also be built.

Furthermore, this planning anticipates a can-making and canning factory, a labor hall, storehouses, launch-making workshops, refrigerator trucks, and the construction of 15 fishing piers. He said: by the end of the current year, about 410 million rials in the form of nets and ropes will have been purchased and distributed among the fishermen. The main part of this distribution has already been accomplished. Haddad said: A budget has been provided for the purchase of about 500 diesel and gasoline motors. Furthermore, a necessary study has been done concerning a launch-building. All sorts of cooperation will be carried out with the Forestry Organization in order to provide the wood for the launches. Furthermore, necessary investment for the March 1982 to March 1983 year is about 8 billion rials, the credit for which has fortunately been provided. He said: The total investment for the southern fisheries' five-year plan in the industrial and traditional sectors is 85 billion rials. Future plans foresee education and research, strengthening fishing cooperatives and elimination of middle-men. These are among the basic goals of the fisheries. He said: We look to fishing cooperatives as our work's future hope. Cooperatives are a factor to help achieve Article 45 of the Constitution. This is because fishing cooperatives are the most important factors to lessen the influence of middlemen.... He said: We are considered a production organization, and in the new charter, distribution will be eliminated from the activities of the fisheries. He added: The Ministry of Energy, the Ministry of Interior, the navy and the Ports and Shipping Organization are sincerely cooperating with us in fishing affairs. Haddad then pointed to industrial fishing, and said: This type of fishing holds great importance. The five-year planning anticipates that we will catch 130,000 tons of fish this way. We ourselves must build a modern fishing company to expand industrial fishing. This work will be very profitable for the country. To found this company, we can count on the participation of banks and organizations which can be active in this matter in some way. From another angle, we can expand industrial fishing by concluding joint contracts with friendly countries. Right now in this area we have reached the final stage of contract signing with North Korea. Haddad said: The fishing loans will be in the form of goods, on 15-year terms. In other words, net and rope will be given over to the fishermen. Concerning shrimp export, he then said: Iranian shrimp has a special desirability. However, during the current year, the shrimp caught was placed at the disposal of war-stricken brothers and sisters. But in the future Iranian-produced shrimp will be exported to world markets. He then pointed to the can-making factory in Bandar 'Abbas, and said: This factory now produces from 15 to 45 thousand cans a day. However, with precise planning, we will be able to raise this capacity to an annual level of 9 million cans. He concluded: the Southern fishing fleet now possesses 40 fishing ships, most of which have been put under way. Of course we will put these ships at the disposal of the fishermen, because we believe that the government should not do work which people can accomplish.

SADDAM HUSAYN'S CALLS FOR PEACE ANALYZED

London AL-DUSTUR in Arabic No 208, 16 Nov 81 pp 28-29

[Article by Jamal Isma'il: "Another Disclosure of the Position of Tehran Toward the Arab Cause"]

[Text] Observers in Western capitals have remarked with regard to the call for a cease-fire in the month of Muharram recently announced by Iraq that, though it is not the first such call since the beginning of the Iraq-Iran war, the timing of its announcement and the prevailing conditions in Iraq, Iran, the Arab world and the international scene deserve a pause for examination and inference.

The recent call was voiced by President Saddam Husayn during his reception for the joint delegations in the Ninth General Arab Women's Union Conference in the second week of the present month.

As Iraq has stated in all statements or actions it has adopted since it began the war on September 4, 1980, the Iraqi President affirmed that the recent appeal does not issue from a position of weakness but from his love of peace.

The occasion of the announcement of the recent call for peace is the arrival of the month of Muharram. Though the call was timed with the holy month, it is considered on the one hand tantamount to a test of the reality of the faith of the rulers of Tehran in any decree which approaches the values of heaven, and on the other hand it is an opportunity for them to think of lasting peace between Iran and the Arabs and Iraq.

This is what the Iraqi President indicated when he said that the outcome of the fighting in the past phase has confirmed that Iraq is not an easy morsel for the rulers of Tehran, and that they have tried whatever they had in the field of operations and "discovered that they are hitting against a hard rock, which is the Iraqi people. Today we try again..."

Anyone who has been watching the Iraq-Iran conflict will easily affirm that Iraq has made a number of attempts, both on the level of actions to bring an end to the tension and to achieve an excellent degree of neighborly relations with Tehran after the departure of the Shah and the coming of Khomeyni, and on the level of a cessation of hostilities. These began with Iran's announcement of the general mobilization, its closing of Iranian air space to traffic, the consolidation of its military forces stationed on the borders with Iraq, its bombing of Iraqi cities

and villages in Khanqin, Mandali, Zurbatiyya and others with heavy artillery, and the gathering of its naval forces in the ports of Shatt al-'Arab and the Arab Gulf.

Before outlining the implications of the recent call, observers called to mind the registration of Iraqi "good intentions" which began with a memorandum dated 13 February 1979 addressed from the Iraqi government to the Iranian government, concerning "the establishment of the firmest ties and relations of cooperation," going on to telegrams of congratulations to the new regime in Iran, and ending with the national proclamation on 8 February 1980 in which President Saddam called on the Arab nation and its lands to apply the principle of not allowing the resort to the use of armed force in disputes between them and with neighboring nations.

Observers likewise recalled all the actions taken by Iraq on its part to bring an end to the fighting since the days following the start of the war, in spite of Iraqi superiority. Among these calls by way of example is that of 15 October 1980 and other moves rejected by Iran.

In what has happened between September 1980, when the war began, and this November, when the most recent call for a cease-fire was made, a number of important factors may be observed which reveal in the end the dimensions of the timing of the announcement of the recent call to halt the fighting during the holy month.

The first factor is indicated by all news reports coming from both Tehran and Baghdad in addition to eye witnesses who know the real conditions inside both Iran and Iraq. We are talking here of the factor of "stability."

If "chaos" is one of the chief characteristics of the regime in Tehran since the coming of Khomeyni, recent months and days have witnessed an escalation of this condition of chaos, distinguished by the sharpness of the internal struggle and the continued violence, assassinations, executions, bombing of government establishments, the destruction of the political and religious leadership, and the schism which resulted in the flight of the president of the republic and the widening of the opposition to the rule of Khomeyni and the pillars of his republic.

Perhaps this is the reason behind the statement of the Iraqi president, while he was announcing the recent call for a cease-fire, that Iraqi soldiers were not only defending the rights and soil of the Arab nation but also the good and the persecuted in Iran itself. The present situation there witnesses that they are many.

The political leadership in Iraq described the situation or the factor of stability in a comparison made by President Saddam Husayn in a recent press conference when he said, "The rulers of Tehran cannot go outside of a certain fortified shelter or they will encounter assassination and fighting from the opposition, whereas we travel in the countryside and sleep at the home of any peasant. The Iranian regime is withdrawing Khomeyni's guard from the front in order to fortify his position in the cities, including Tehran, in order to counter the opposition, whereas the regime in Iraq is sending the republican guard to the front, while it remains without a guard except the president's personal bodyguard."

The second factor governing the extent of the timing of the announcement of the recent call for a cease-fire is the "military" factor, or the situation on the front of the fighting.

Without going into details, this remains the final and tangible result which is that the Iraqi side occupies Iranian land and remains or moves on the axes of the fighting according to the conditions defined by the joint military-political leadership without effect to the final outcome.

Likewise, although in the beginning the comparison between the details of the Iranian force and the Iraqi force led to a theoretical reckoning in favor of Iran, the conditions on the battle front, in light of the final outcome previously indicated, are conditions reckoned in favor of Iraq.

President Saddam Husayn pointed out that the principal reason for this superiority is contained in the element of belief. He said we have "one situation which goes against history and another which moves with it...one situation which goes against all the central components and the characteristics of the modern age, and another which has all the components of the modern age in its resplendent essential characteristics."

The difference between the Iraq "situation" and the Iranian "situation" leads once again to the factor of stability...On the Iranian arena there is obvious fragmentation, and on the Iraqi arena there is tenacity, a united domestic front, the continuity of normal daily life, a situation of growth in spite of the circumstances of war, and other demonstrations of stability.

There remains the factor related to the Arab situation. The reflection of the Iraq-Iran war on the Arab world is a reflection which is not concealed from anyone, whether this reflection is due to the attitude of Iran toward the Arabs or due to the fact that Iraq is the Arab region which is one of the parties in the war, or due to the attitude of some towards this war.

A discussion of the dimensions of the timing of the announcement of the call for a cease-fire in the month of Muharram in terms of the factor related to the Arab circumstances is a discussion which is incomplete without pointing out once again the "situation" and orientation of the regime in Iran.

When the Iraqi leadership says that the Iranian regime has helped many to take a sound position against it, just as it has found many who did not take such a position due to a lack of information or analytical ability, these words clearly point to the relations of the Tehran regime with Tel Aviv and bargains of mutual exchange between them: oil for Israel in return for arms for Iran. They are bargains which prove beyond any doubt that the closing of an Israeli embassy and the claims of positions supporting the Arab cause were an Iranian attempt to raise a slogan which collapsed before it spread.

An analysis of the matter must point out President Saddam Husayn's statements in a recent press conference, that the Iraq-Iran war pushed Iraq onto the center stage of the Arab cause and the struggle with Israel, though it has not changed any of its basic and firm attitudes to the essential problem.

In this is a response to some whose positions have certainly changed with the continued revelation of the Iranian attitudes toward Arab issues, whether from the standpoint of Tehran's relations with Tel Aviv or even from the standpoint of the collapse of Islamic pretensions internally and externally.

From the preceding it is clear that the dimensions of the timing of the announcement of the recent call for a cease-fire and the circumstances or environment of its announcement flow in the end to the benefit of the Iraqi position announced from the beginning of the dispute. It is a position which the observer, and particularly the Arab, can do nothing but acknowledge and hope that the Iranian side will affirm the reality of its faith and its readiness for peace.

9397

CSO: 44404/157

NEW GUIDELINES FOR FEDERAL RESERVE BANK TO BE ADOPTED

Beirut AL-IQTISAD WA AL-A'MAL in Arabic No 29, Aug 81 p 63

[Interview with Hasan al-Najfi, governor of the Iraqi Central Bank: "Annual Credit Plan to Control Monetary Expansion; Iraqis Encouraged to Invest in the Gulf, and Gulf Nations to Invest in Iraqi Projects"]

[Text] The Iraqi Central Bank has drawn up an annual credit plan, aimed at controlling monetary expansion stemming from intensive growth operations. In the following interview, the governor of the Iraqi Central Bank, Hasan al-Najfi, explains this plan, its priorities, and Iraq's policy with respect to private investment.

[Question] Is it possible to discuss the role that the Iraqi Central Bank plays in controlling the monetary situation and actions taken to confront market conditions?

[Answer] The strategic role that monetary policy plays in the usual growth circumstances depends on the principal weight that this policy has in the development plan. Therefore, the central bank some years ago, or more precisely since 1979, began to develop a credit plan. This plan forms the general framework for the central bank's monetary and credit policy, in light of the economic circumstances through which Iraq is passing. Since Iraq has gone beyond the stage of comprehensive social and economic development, a large increase in general budget expenditures for the consumer and investor state is required, which result in effects which might not be in the interest of the national economy, for example, expansion in domestic liquidity and cash supply not commensurate with the volume of goods and services produced domestically or imported. The central bank had an obligation to pursue a policy to end the monetary expansion within the means available to it. Accordingly, the bank set up the credit plan to annually determine the general principles of the bank's policy, which includes making available monetary and financial resources for the economic sectors, especially the socialist sector, on the one hand, and to prevent expansion in banking credit as much as possible, especially loans for non-productive purposes on the other. The central bank's annual credit plan is aimed at achieving the following:

1. Harmony between the cash supply growth rate and general credit.
2. Regulate credit and direct it toward supplying priority investments in the economic plan with the necessary funds.
3. Comply with the demands to finance the import program, which includes supplying domestic consumer and economic projects' needs.

4. Priority in granting credit to institutions and organizations of the socialist sector, which will lead to achieving its principal role in the Iraqi economy.

[Question] How do you view Arab or joint banks abroad?

[Answer] After the oil prices were adjusted at the end of 1973, and the resultant increase in financial profits for the Arab oil states, the Arab financial and economic institutions began to go outside of the Arab world to new horizons, in search of investment and possibilities of financial gain. These institutions were established in the first place to carry out foreign financial operations between the Arab states and abroad. These institutions then developed into being partners in financing Arab development and investment projects.

[Question] What is Iraq's investment policy, both domestically and abroad?

[Answer] Legislation was promulgated in Iraq aimed at encouraging Iraqi investments in Arab countries, especially the Gulf nations. The Revolutionary Command Council issued its decree No 336 dated 24 May 1972, which permitted the Iraqi private sector to operate in the Arab Gulf states, and offered the necessary facilities for that, in accordance with the principles and guidelines of the Iraqi Central Bank. That was followed by another decree, dated 12 May 1980, permitting the Iraqi socialist and private sectors, including consultative engineering, accounting, economic and other offices, to operate in Arab countries.

Moreover, the Revolutionary Command Council in Iraq issued a number of decrees pertaining to encouraging sharing in Arab investments, especially Arab Gulf investments in Iraqi economic growth projects. The most important of these decrees was No 899, issued in 12 August 1980, by means of which the government granted preferential treatment to the investment of Arab capital, in accordance with the economic growth program, especially joint or individual tourism projects. It also deals with the capital of Arab investors the same way as with Iraqi capital; it enjoys all the privileges stipulated in the Industrial Development Law issued in 1964, as amended.

On 6 March 1980, the Revolutionary Command Council issued a decree which included granting encouraging banking and import facilities and tax benefits to investors in tourism projects and amenities, their owners and leaseholders, both Iraqi and Arab. In addition to that, the government permitted the Arab investor the right to reside in Iraqi territory in order to pursue his activity, and the right to establish exhibitions and open commercial offices.

7005

CSO: 4404/30

GROWING PRESSURE FOR ENDING WAR EMPHASIZED

Paris AL-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AL-DUWALI in Arabic No 228, 14-20 Sep 81 pp 18-19

[Article by Nahad al-Mashnuq: "Baghdad In Its Positions Inside Iran; Hani al-Hasan Conveyed Messages Between Baghdad and al-Rajavi"]

[Text] Last week, President Saddam Husayn entered the tomb of Imam 'Ali in al-Najf, in the midst of the constant crowd of visitors, who were shocked to see him crying as he touched the sides of the tomb.

This was not the first visit made by the Iraqi president to the holy places in Iraq, but last week's visit carried a special significance, the unannounced "celebration" of the first anniversary of the Iraqi-Iranian war.

After a year of war, it is no longer important to know who began this war, but rather, it is important to know when it will end and who will end it. Bear in mind that a hasty review of its results shows that it is likely to continue.

Internationally, Iraq entered this war with severed relations with the United States and disrupted relations with the Soviet Union, which withdrew the its armament ships from Iraqi ports when the war broke out and, right at the outset, forbade the nations of the socialist camp to supply Iraq with its requirements of arms, ammunition and equipment. Moreover, the Western European position was shaky in regard to this war, despite the fact that the clear tilt of these nations was toward Iraq, due to firm economic and political relations over the years.

Now, American-Iraqi relations have begun to develop, with a rise in the level of contact between the two sides on the one hand, and the drawing together of their mutual understanding of the war, on the other, especially after President Carter's departure who accused Iraq of invading Iran. Nevertheless, this does not mean the restoration of relations between Washington and Baghdad to the diplomatic level.

The truth is that this political action by Iraq appears to be contradictory, at least in form, to the firm principles of Iraqi policy and its hostility to the United States. However, Iraqi officials see their position as a way to curb the losses in Iraq's international relations in a war of this kind. Escalation of Iraqi-American enmity does not serve Iraq's position, while cooling off this enmity at this time will help to spread an international atmosphere which would be pleasing to Iraqi policy.

Between Washington and Moscow

In President Saddam Husayn's close party circle, while expanding this development, he said that the war permits the use of all types of weapons, except those that are in conflict with the pan-Arab interests of the Arab Nation or which occupy its territory, such as Israel and Iran.

This development in relations between Baghdad and Washington has naturally compelled the Soviet Union to reconsider its calculations toward the Iraqi capital. Despite the tension that has market relations between the two countries, Iraq has and always is careful to term the Soviet Union a friendly nation. If Iraq asks the Soviets to overlook the question of the Iraqi Communists, it is because Iraq considers this matter to be an internal affair, in which the Soviet Union has no right to interfere, aside from the excessive Iraqi sensitivity regarding any political relationship that carries the stamp of interference in Iraq's affairs, whether from close by or far away. In any event, the Soviet Union knows, after closely watching developments in that region, that only an objective relationship with Baghdad is possible.

Therefore, the elimination of tension in relations between the two countries requires a natural development process, which began a few months ago, when Taha Yasin Ramadhan, the Iraqi deputy prime minister, visited the Soviet capital and came back with approval to continue implementing the economic and growth agreements, provided that the resumption of economic relations would be the start of serious development on the political plane.

In fact, after that, a number of Soviet officials visited Baghdad, and many clouds began to be dispelled from relations between Baghdad and Moscow. That was followed by armament easements from the nations of the socialist camp to Iraq. Note that some of these facilities had not stopped, despite the war. The Soviet Union, along with the socialist nations, knows that closing the socialist door to arming the Iraqi army, because of the war, does not mean that this army will not be armed. There are many states, having firm and stable relations with Iraq, that produce arms and that are apparently always ready to supply Iraq with its needs. Among these nations are Spain, Brazil and Austria. Moreover, France has continued to implement the arms contracts signed between it and Iraq despite the war. Iraq received a number of French Mirage fighters, before the end of the term of the former French president, Giscard d'Estaing.

As for Western Europe, it has found in the developments of the domestic Iranian situation a reason to cover itself by displaying its positive position toward Iraq, without that leading to a political embarrassment for itself. That has clearly been shown by the French decision to rebuild the Iraqi nuclear reactor, which Israel bombed. This position was adopted during the visit of Tariq 'Aziz, the Iraqi vice president, to Paris, and his meeting with officials of the new administration, led by President Francois Mitterrand.

On the Arab level, Iraq entered the war in the midst of clear Arab unease regarding nations that were supporting the Iranian revolution, while most of the nations of the Arab bloc were supporting Iraq. Despite that, the support of these nations for Iran continued to be a weak point for the Iraqi position which had always boasted of its support and assistance for the Arab nations as a whole.

However Iranian domestic developments robbed the Arab position, of partial support for Iran, of its vitality, and forced it to continue to support a non-cohesive position, until the Israeli arms and spare parts deals with Iran were revealed. These were confirmed by former president Abol Hasan Bani-Sadr from Paris. This made the Arab support for Iraq more unanimous, with very few and not very convinced exceptions.

This does not prevent us from saying that the Gulf states used this war to establish a council for cooperation among themselves, and excluded Iraq from it. However, the Iraqis would have acted on the basis of postponing consideration of this, were it not for the dispute over oil prices and production quantities with Saudi Arabia.

Semi-official Iraqi sources interpret the escalation in relations between Riyadh and Baghdad to the effect that Iraq intends by that to make the Gulf States, led by Saudi Arabia, understand that they cannot continue to avoid the Iraqi political position, and that the large amounts of assistance that Saudi Arabia and the UAE give to Iraq is not a substitute for respecting the Iraqi position.

The same sources said that the economic losses suffered by Iraq, as a result of Saudi insistence on lowering prices and increasing production of oil, cannot be measured in months, as reported in the press, but rather, the danger to the Iraqi oil economy from the Saudi position must be calculated in years. No one expects that Saudi Arabia will continue in this position for years, but rather, it is expected that the OPEC nations will adopt a compromise position at the next December meeting. However, this does not mean to say that the Iraqi difficulties have not been increased by the Saudi position. Iraq has been afflicted with all the economic and social consequences of the war. However, it is acting on the basis that what is happening is within the calculations made beforehand. Therefore, Iraq has not stopped its assistance to any friendly nation in the Third World, and it has not suspended implementation of its projects. The treasury bonds that the government issued received such strong acceptance that they disappeared from circulation only a few days after they were issued last month.

Hani Al-Hasan's Mission

On the military scene, some intensity appears at times in the fighting between the two sides, but this does not change the nature of the positions that Iraq occupied at the start of the war. During the past few months, it has become apparent that Iraq does not intend to advance militarily; on the contrary, it wants to maintain its positions. Informed Iraqi sources say that the leadership is no longer as concerned with the military situation as it is with watching the domestic events in Iran.

These sources add that, in one form or another, Iraq is establishing relations with all the Iranian opposition parties from the extreme right to the extreme left, and is content, as was not its habit, with guaranteeing these relations without any publicity.

Arab diplomatic sources comment on this by saying that Hani al-Hasan, Yassir 'Arafat's political advisor and a member of FATAH's central committee, was charged with carrying a message from Mas'ud Rajavi, leader of the Mujahedin e-Khlaq organization,

who is in Paris, to the Iraqi leadership. Al-Hasan carried back a reply to this letter, which made clear Iraq's firm position with regard to the necessity of establishing "good neighbor" relations between Iraq and Iran.

In public conversations, Rajavi has expressed his support for relations of this kind with Iraq, including implementing the Algiers agreement concluded between the two countries in 1975. Does this mean that Iraq has overcome the difficulties of the war on its first anniversary?

The second anniversary of the war will be the date to hold the non-aligned nations' summit conference in Baghdad. Iraq will not only host the summit, but rather, will also try for its leadership.

7005

CSO: 4404/30

GROUP CALLS FOR MORE SINAI SETTLEMENTS

Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew 7 Oct 81 p 2

[Article: "We Have Nuclei Ready to Come to the Yamit Strip in Any Place and at Any Time They Are Needed"]

[Text] "We have nuclei who are prepared to fulfill all the needs of the Yamit Strip and to arrive at the place at any time required of them. One nucleus, completely urban and observant, is already prepared to go out to the area and an additional nucleus of children of kibbutzim and moshavim is at advanced stages of organization," it was reported by the secretary of the Movement to Stem the Withdrawal from Sinai, Uri Elitzur of the Ofra settlement in Judea.

The remarks were made at a news conference that took place at the Talmey Yosef Moshav in the Yamit Strip, in which many foreign correspondents also took part. Mr Elitzur reported that the intent of his organization is to exert effort to arouse public opposition and to stem the withdrawal process. "We don't have any intention of assembling fighters and organizing against the IDF," the spokesman stressed. "If we had wanted that, we would not have come with children, family and property. We're coming with the intention of living here many years."

The spokesman further stated that for the Sukkot holiday his movement is preparing to continue the gathering of signatures on a petition "Please Do Not Uproot the Planted." Thus far, about 300,000 have been gathered and they plan to reach 1 million signatures.

During the intermediate days of the Sukkot holiday the movement will organize an assembly of some 100 spiritual leaders who will come up with a demand to stop the withdrawal.

Yigal Segal, the head of the regional Eytam administration which federates all the settlements of the Yamit Strip, said at a news conference that the goal in occupying the empty houses at Talmey Yosef was to assure an orderly life in the settlement. Mr Segal added that the 15 families who came to the settlement received full help from the regional Eytam administration and the settlements in the locality.

In response to a question of correspondents whether it is within the authority of the administration to occupy empty houses and if there has been a precedent

for that, Mr Segal replied that neither was there a precedent for the attempt to uproot settlements.

Remarks were also made at the meeting by Mordekhai Cohen of Talmey Yosef and Mrs Aviya Luz, a psychologist who, together with her husband, came from Kiryat Malakhi, who argued that "thus far, no government source has contacted them either in writing or verbally to evacuate Talmey Yosef."

The correspondent of ITIM in the region notes that the press conference at Talmey Yosef took place before receipt of the news about the events in Cairo.

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CSO: 4423/30

BANK DIRECTOR INTERVIEWED ON ECONOMY

Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew 2 Oct 81 p 3

[Interview with deputy director of the Bank of Israel, Dr Moshe Mandelbaum by Yitzhaq Deutsch: "Stabilizers Needed to Stem Spiral of Inflation"]

[Excerpt] The Israeli economy faces severe problems: the (continuing) three-digit inflation, a deficit in the balance of payments and indications of a worrisome drop in the foreign currency surplus. An awareness of these problems was brought up by Dr Moshe Mandelbaum long before he began to serve as deputy director of the Bank of Israel. But at present it appears that he is developing new thoughts on how to cope with the problems.

Dr Moshe Mandelbaum came to his new assignment with considerable experience: in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry he carried out a long list of assignments and left after serving as director-general. Thereafter, he served as acting chairman of the Bank for Industrial Development, served as member and chairman in a series of councils, administrative bodies, governmental and public commissions. Concurrently, he is a lecturer in economics at the University of Bar Ilan and has taught many students. His appointment, although arousing a degree of criticism, because it was made following the failure to reappoint two former deputies, was cheerfully received by various elements of the economy. The president of the Manufacturers Association, Avraham (Buma) Shavit, writes: "The Government of Israel did well in appointing you as deputy director of the Bank of Israel. The manufacturing community of the country recognizes and respects the breadth of your knowledge and the depth of your understanding of manufacturing problems in a widespread system of governmental and public tasks that you have fulfilled. You have demonstrated that you indeed have the qualifications and the capability to fulfill the assignment in the best possible manner."

Coping in a Variety of Ways

The economic policy of Finance Minister Yoram Aridor attracts various assessments, although it can be noted that the critical tone regarding it has moderated recently. We wanted to ascertain the attitude of the Deputy Director toward it.

[Dr Mandelbaum] There has been a severe problem of high inflation for several years. Attempts have been made to cope with it in various ways, but it has not

dropped. The economic policy of the Finance Minister is an attempt to cope with the problem in new ways as other countries are doing. Over the first 9 months there has decidedly been success. Inflation has not been controlled but there has been a slowing of its rate. Now we must put our minds to the question of what additional means are to be undertaken in order to continue the inflation-slowness process and we must pass to another stage of additional reduction in the rate of inflation.

It should be remembered that the basic problem of the Israeli economy is balance of payments. Some 50 percent of manufactured output is destined for export, as the most recent annual report of the Bank of Israel establishes. Any policy to be adopted must assure that there not be a worsening in the balance of payments; indeed, they always insisted that the profitability of exports not be adversely affected. This was accomplished by means of export incentives, credits, subsidies in the costs of producing and marketing abroad in various ways. The preoccupation with export benefited from special means, even beyond the overall system.

With the introduction of the liberalization in 1979, and to a great extent even before that, when the policy of depreciation was instituted in 1974, it was determined that the principal dealing with export would be by means of the exchange rate. In that way, the profitability of export would increase and thereby its scope would grow. The depreciation would also make imports more expensive and bring about its reduction. By these means, they sought to close the gap in the balance of payments.

Linked System

However, Dr Mandelbaum adds, in the course of time two basic things became clear:

a) Real wage did not drop. In any policy of the government account must be taken of the impossibility of basing a policy over the long range on the drop in the real wage. In 1980 there was a drop in the real wage but in 1981 it rose again.

b) Constant depreciations tend to improve the profitability of export. But nominal reductions create price rises. At the same time, the decisively greater part of the system is linked: budgets are linked, the wage is linked to the cost of living increase, and there is an additional link by means of wage agreements, assets are almost all linked. As a result, the nominal depreciation does not turn out to be a real depreciation.

Erosion of the Demand Surplus

[Question] Then a knot has been tied which is impossible to untie?

[Dr Mandelbaum] Here it must be stressed that the high level of the budget and the surplus demand of the public sector are the principal causes of inflation. This situation exists in other countries as well. But increasing prices erode this surplus demand and therefore contribute to the reining in of inflation. Among us the budget and the demand surplus have been preserved despite an increase in price, and in this way perpetuates the inflationary spiral. In order

to change the face of things, stabilizing elements must be assured, in the market system and then it will be possible to slow the inflationary spiral.

Favoring a Full Cost-of-Living Increase

[Question] What stabilizing elements do you propose to activate?

[Dr Mandelbaum] Well, subsidies have been granted in order to stem local increases. For the same purpose sales taxes were lowered. But there were still prospects in the market for price increases. Because of these prospects, wage increases were given beyond the cost of living increase itself since the cost of living increase is only to the extent of 80 percent. In order to neutralize the influence of the anticipation we must assure a cost of living increase of 100 percent, which will protect the real wage but will not be an increase that will raise the real wage beyond the increase in productivity. This kind of arrangement can serve as a stabilizing element. It can contribute to the cutting of the inflationary spiral.

Another area is depreciation and profitability of export. What is required for export is a real depreciation, not a nominal one. It is possible to guarantee for export and improvement of the effective rate as it was done by means of guaranteeing of the exchange rate, reducing taxes on raw materials and eliminating high tax on labor (particularly payments of National Insurance) as well as granting employment incentives for special areas. This would make possible reduction of the nominal depreciations.

These methods will make it possible to escape from this inflationary trap, accelerated depreciations and wage increases.

At the same time, the motivation for work and for investment must be increased. The economy today is investing less than what is required. It is true that in the short run an increased investment has a certain inflationary influence, but over the long range this influence is anti-inflationary. Investments will increase the supply and strengthen exports. It is especially important to guarantee that the monies that the government recruits in the capital market, go for investments and not for the raising of current expenses. And this repeats itself.

Coping With the Basic Factors

[Question] Is there a danger today that inflation may burst forth after the measures that were undertaken in previous months at the expense of a large cash flow?

[Dr Mandelbaum] That need not necessarily occur. It is true that there is such a monetary process. If it continues such an outburst may occur. But if the required measures are taken, this outburst can be prevented. I would say that we are on the threshold of conquering inflation; now it is certainly possible to restrain it. During this stage, cutting the budget has become more urgent. If that is done, then there is a good prospect for preventing any recurrence of severe inflation.

Incidentally, the cash flow itself is not the sole determinant in inflationary pressures. What is more important is the surplus governmental demand. The situation existing today in the exposed market that is determinant, is not only the cash and the currency flow in the hands of the public. What is important is, how does the public proceed with its outlays? Even one whose money is invested in saving plans and in employee funds permits himself exaggerated expenses, if he perceives himself overall as someone with considerable assets. For this reason it is necessary today to weigh the price that the government is paying for the various savings plans, since it does not always stand out in relation to the outcome that they wish to attain, which is the prevention of increased demand. In the end the fundamental importance is limiting surplus governmental demand vis a vis the income of the government from taxes.

No Credit Recruitment Problem For Israel

[Question] In July and August foreign exchange surplus dropped by about \$150 million. Is there need for worry about the status of Israel's surplus?

[Dr Mandelbaum] At the beginning of the year there was an increase in surplus. After the drop, we still stand at a high level as at the beginning of the year. What is important is the source of the drop: Is it from an incidental movement of capital or from the current balance. This issue is now being examined at the Bank of Israel. What can be determined at this time is that the increased deficit in the balance of payments will be lower than had been anticipated at the start of the year. The increase will be between \$250 and \$300 million as against a forecast of an increase of \$450 million. The slowdown in the increase of export is in dollar terms by the influence of the currency exchange. But in the quantity of export, there has not been any slowdown of the increase. Despite this, the exchange rates were a positive influence on the import side, since import from Europe has become more expensive.

As to the problem of credit, there is no room for worry. Israel protects its very high rating in the financial world. It is able to garner the credit it requires. It has at its disposal a widespread banking network which enjoys excellent contacts. There is, therefore, no problem in acquiring credit.

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CSO: 4423/30

BRIEFS

EEC THREAT TO CITRUS INDUSTRY--The anticipated membership of Spain in the European Common Market casts a heavy cloud on the future of Israeli citrus export, the Director General of the Citrus Council, Tzvi Kinan said yesterday at a meeting with reporters on the occasion of the completion of his term with the council and the transfer of his assignment to the new Director General Dan Paldy. Kinan explained that the joining by three additional countries of the Market--Greece, Portugal and Spain--can greatly damage all of the agricultural export. On the diplomatic level, he noted, there is no possibility to forestall the severe consequences, but the hope now is that the Market countries themselves will prevent this. At this time, there is disillusionment and there is no inclination on the part of the countries of the Market to subsidize the agriculture of additional countries who join because it is even difficult to bear the present burden. Our political situation is not glittering but the internal activities in the Market countries can be a help to us and that is what must be encouraged, he said. The director general designate D. Paldy indicated a drastic reduction in demand for fruit in Europe in recent years because of the economic situation. The reduction is in citrus as well, yet the Israeli fruit fetches a far higher price than that of other countries. For that reason, he emphasized, the quality of the fruit should be protected, something which has not been done recently. In the past 2 years there has been a deterioration in this matter, he said, announcing that on this issue there will be no compromise. The speakers noted that the relatively good prices which have been acquired for Israeli citrus could not balance the drastic reduction of the European currency. Z. Kinan said that citrus growing "devours" its capital because of the inappropriate currency exchange. [Text] [Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew 7 Oct 81 p 6] 8090

INDUSTRIAL EXPORTS--Net goods exports reached \$380 million in September of this year, at current prices, of which about \$20 million were agricultural exports and \$260 million were manufactured exports. In September of last year the value of exports came to a total of \$360 million. The value of export, excluding diamonds, ships and planes, and taking seasonal factors into account, was, in September of this year, 13 percent lower as compared with the month of August, but 3 percent higher than the value of exports in July of this year. This was reported by spokespersons of the Central Office of Statistics and the Ministry of Industry and Commerce on the basis of tentative data which do not include export from Israel to the Occupied Territories. Net goods exported during the first months of the year reached \$3.849 billion dollars as against \$3.790 billion in the parallel period a year ago. An important factor in this stability is the drop

in the value of polished diamonds which were lower by 19 percent than in January to September 1980. In manufactured export, excluding diamonds, an increase of 10 percent has been recorded since the start of the year. Data from seasonal influences indicate that in the first 9 months of the year, there was recorded stability in the value of export in comparison to the last quarter of 1980. With that there has been indicated in the period July-September an increase of 10 percent as compared with the first half of the year. [Text] [Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew 5 Oct 81 p 4] 8090

CSO: 4423/30

BRIEFS

FINNISH FIRM BUILDING PORTS—The Finns are building a fishing port worth about 70 million marks in Libya. The contract between the engineering firm of Vesi-Pekka and the Libyan contractor involves both the designing of the port and its construction at the town of Zliten on the shores of the Gulf of Sirte. The time set for completion of the port is 17 months. The port is intended for fishing boats and trawlers. The combined length of the docks will amount to about 500 meters. The port will be protected by stone breakwaters about 200 meters in length whose functioning has been tested with miniature model experiments. The Finnish contract also covers the port authority building, boat and net storage facilities and a fish-processing hall with its equipment. The contract further includes construction of port power, water, sewage and telephone networks as well as channel dredging facilities and markers. Construction work in Zliten will begin immediately. In addition to the contract just signed, Vesi-Pekka has port construction projects in Tobruk and Benghazi and dock construction projects in Es Sider in progress. The combined worth of the firm's projects in Libya that have been completed or are in progress comes to about 600 million marks. [Text] [Helsinki HELSINGIN SANOMAT in Finnish 16 Dec 81 p 39] 11466

CSO: 3107/38

DEVELOPMENT OF COUNTRY AFTER 10 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE

Paris AL-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AL-DUWALI in Arabic No 228, 14-20 Sep 81 pp 22-23

[Article by 'Ali Hashim: "Qatar Concerned for its Citizen, for a Strong Nation to Serve Gulf Unity"]

[Text] The Emir of Qatar, Shaykh Khalifah Ibn Hamad Al Thani, recently traveled to several European capitals and ended up in Paris, where he held discussions with French officials, led by President Francois Mitterrand. He took the opportunity of King Husayn's presence in the French capital to hold discussions with him dealing with the question of the Middle East and its developments. Shaykh Khalifah also discussed with the French side Qatari-French relations and the European initiative. The French president promised to visit Qatar, either during his scheduled visit to Riyadh and Oman, or at a later date, since he intends to visit Doha and several of the other Gulf states' capitals.

Shaykh Khalifah speeded up his return to Doha for an important occasion in his country's history. On 3 September 1981, Qatar celebrated the tenth anniversary of its declaration of independence. On that day in 1971, Shaykh Khalifah, who at that time was crown prince and prime minister, raised his voice and announced the end of the ties with Britain. He also declared the Emirate of Qatar to be an independent state. He chose a flag for his country, established the Advisory Council, and joined the United Nations and the Arab League. Qatar brought a new voice into the international forum, raised in support of the principles of peace, the rights of man, freedom and justice, in addition to adhering to the rights of Arab Community.

Qatar celebrated this occasion this year with festivities, in which the Ministry of Information and Culture participated, and attended by several delegations representing the Gulf states.

Independence in Qatar is nothing more than an expression of an old fact, the fact of its independence from Britain, since Qatar has not for a single day been a colony, nor subjected to occupation, nor has there ever been a foreign soldier there. However, the declaration of independence was a reference to the beginning of a new era for a young nation, seriously striving to participate in the process of developing its citizenry and creating a society.

Unionist Policy

The Emir of Qatar, Shaykh Khalifah, since his participation in the government as crown prince and prime minister, has had unionist tendencies and goals. He took

part in the discussions that began in the last part of the 1960's to establish Gulf unity, in an attempt to join forces to prepare for a later unionist movement. He submitted several concessions in order to push forward the work of the Gulf states and their goals. When the attempts at unity failed, and the Emirate of Bahrain took the initiative to declare its independence and its changing to a state, Shaykh Khalifah took the initiative to declare Qatar's independence. He insisted that the state's constitution contain a clause stating that Qatar was a part of the Arab Community and ready to enter into any Arab Gulf unity.

Based on this policy, Qatar has participated in the GCC, and has helped to bring together the points of view among the region's states, especially as pertains to the security of the Gulf and the policy required to achieve this end.

Ten years have passed since Qatar's independence. During that time, the country has experienced a revolution in all aspects of life, since the emirate that was dependent, in the first degree, upon oil has developed its economy. It has created an industrial city, comprised of iron, steel and chemical plants. The Emirat has accomplished a plan of heavy industrialization, and has transformed the area of Umm Sa'id into a most important industrial complex. Apart from that, the country is on its way toward establishing a group of light and medium industries.

In the Umm Sa'id area, it has established a factory for iron and steel that is considered the first integrated plant in the Gulf and Middle East areas, employing about 1172 workers. In 1980, it produced about 400,000 tons of reinforcing rods. The oil sector has enjoyed special importance since the discovery of oil in 1949. Today, this sector is under complete Qatari, national supervision, not only over the oil, but also over the gas sector as well. Qatar's production of crude oil in 1980 was approximately 173 million barrels a year, from both land and offshore wells. i.e., a daily rate of about one-half million barrels. As a result in the continuous increase in domestic consumption of petroleum products, Qatar has begun construction of a third refinery, which will begin operations in 1983. A factory to produce asphalt will be attached to it.

Qatar has great wealth in raw materials, such as gypsum, limestone and the type of lime needed to expand the asphalt industry. In February 1981, the Emir of Qatar dedicated a petrochemical complex in Umm Sa'id, which is considered the first of its kind in the region. Moreover, on that same date, he opened a liquified natural gas project, whose daily production is estimated at 1200 million cubic feet of non-associated gas. In the field of developing light and medium industries, the production of Qatari flour has developed from 7,000 tons in 1972 to 38,000 tons of flour in 1979. In addition there is an organic fertilizer (from garbage) factory, whose production is about 80 tons a day.

Commerce, Agriculture, Communications

In the area of commercial activity, several vital amenities have been established. Monetary institutions and specific departments within the Ministry of Economy and Commerce have been developed, as well as the Qatar Chamber of Commerce. National Banks have also been established. In the agricultural sector, use has been made of studies prepared for agricultural growth in Qatar in the period from 1971 to 1979. Production of wheat has increased from 161 to about 530 tons, i.e., an annual

percentage rate of 14.2. The production of vegetables has also increased, which raises the degree of self-sufficiency. The value of agricultural production in Qatar in 1979 amounted to 107 million riyals, of which 28.3 percent was livestock production, 25.6 percent was vegetables, 18.8 percent was fodder, 14.3 percent was fish production, and 12.1 percent was fruit and dates.

In the event of increased amounts of fresh water, an area suitable for agriculture, estimated at one-third of a million dunums, will be exploited. The most important accomplishment in this field was the establishment of an experimental station in the northern part of the country on some 800 dunums of land, for the purpose of reforestation and the producing of different kinds of fruit trees, apart from the planting of ornamental bushes and flowers.

In the area of communications, Qatar has placed special emphasis on means of transportation, since they are the main arteries of economic and commercial life. The airport was expanded and other arrival halls have been added. Moreover, new warehouses and piers have been built in the ports of Doha and Umm Sa'id. There is also a move to build a new station for integrated coverage of satellite communications. The station is expected to be completed in 1982. Note that the grounding station for satellite communications that is operating now to convey telephone, wireless and television communications, was opened in 1976 and has 192 channels.

This year, a project for the first electronic telephone exchange was implemented. It will have a capacity of 30,000 lines. There are direct telephone communications with Europe, America, Japan and the Arab countries.

Developing the New Man

Additionally, the state is paying particular attention to the youth element. It has established a university for the thousands of graduates from the secondary schools, and has taken care to send thousands abroad for specialization in the various fields of applied sciences, such as medicine, engineering, petrochemicals, and matters involving oil, gas and the new industries. It has concentrated on the importance of the Qatari man of the future and on his role in the extraction of the oil wealth and supervising the administration of the state, with dependence on Qatari experts in all matters pertaining to the nation. Accordingly, Shaykh Khalifah has paid particular attention to the youth and their education, in order to give them an opportunity to take on the affairs of state, instead of depending on non-Qatari experts.

It is expected that the state will conduct comprehensive studies in various administrative fields and make modifications in some areas to get ready for dependence on the upcoming Qatari graduates, who will be running the administrative and economic affairs of the country.

Two years ago, there was a new movement in the ministries, and a large number of Qatari students graduated into various sectors, especially in the Ministry of Information and Culture, where a new generation of graduates emerged and took their places in responsible positions. This was reflected on various levels in the state, raising them both in quantity and quality.

CORRUPTION, DEFICIENCIES OF MILITARY DETAILED

London AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 2, 9, 16 Nov 81

[Article: "Letters to the Editor in 'Sudanese Documents'"]

[2 Nov 81 pp 62-33]

[Text]

Note:

Readers who send in their views are requested to observe the following points:

- * The letters should be brief;
- * Refrain from personal invective or defamation against those about whom you are writing;
- * Concentrate strongly on the essence of the idea you are conveying; refrain from unnecessary detail;
- * Write names and addresses, if possible, or if there is a special security reason, give fictitious ones.

Numayri's Army: Total Scandals

The following piece was sent in by a former major in the armed forces.

Talk about the army's situation today in Sudan is unceasing; there are many stories, but a few are sufficient to shed light on the distress and pain that our army is suffering as a result of the government's attempts to transform it into a lifeless corpse, too weak to perform its most simple duties, due to neglect of the profession's traditions and all the army's goals, striving to create different classes within this single body, presumed to be the nation's shield and protector, its fortress of fortresses, sacrificing itself to defend national soil.

However, what has kept "today's army" from these sacred duties are many and various. In my capacity as a former officer in the Sudanese armed forces, I can say that among these reasons for the army's paralysis is a group that owes allegiance to persons and not to the nation. By way of example, there is a group known as the "Lt General's boys." It is composed of an elite class of various ranks, about whom there are a thousand rumors, due to the close connections with Lt Gen "Abd al-Majid. Among those names, we find Maj Gen Yusef Hasan al-Haj, the former

military attache to the United States and currently director of the supply branch. We also find Col 'Abd al-Sattar 'Abd al-'Azim, former commanding officer of the Chemical Warfare School and instigator of an infamous scandal in the history of examinations in the Sudanese army.

Here are the details:

That colonel went for an examination to enter the command and staff school, and was "prepared" with all the information for it. However, Brig Gen Isma'il al-Tayyab discovered the affair and undertook to expel him, in accordance with the rules and regulations. He formed an investigatory tribunal, since the Col was caught red-handed. The military punishment was to bar him from the course, in addition to other matters. The case became the object of discussion among all the army officers, because Col 'Abd al-Sattar had a unique "status." The case was considered a blow against Lt Gen 'Abd al-Majid Khalil, and the officers were betting that Col 'Abd al-Sattar would be found innocent and, probably be considered as successful in passing this course and obtain the highest marks, thus qualifying him for overseas courses.

The important thing is that the actions of the investment council immediately became non-binding, since the custom was that officers in situations such as this remained under guard until the verdict was in. However, orders were issued freeing Col 'Abd al-Sattar immediately, and his courtmartial was completed in only 2 days, and not 7 months or 2 months as was usual in army regulations, so that the investigation could be completed. The verdict came from the minister of defense personally, also a breach of army regulations, since the decision should have been under the jurisdiction of the chief of staff. The verdict was to hold a special examination for Col 'Abd al-Sattar and to consider what happened as if it had not happened. The examination was held, and the result was that Col 'Abd al-Sattar was brilliantly successful. The details of the scandal were the talk of the town. Everyone joked that the "general's boys" were in a strong position inside the army, with no authority over them and not subject to that army's rules.

Another one of the "general's boys" is Brig Gen Ibrahim Muhammad al-Hasan, and his driver with the rank of corporal. However, he behaved and acted as though he had the authority to defy the orders of an officer. One day the brigadier's corporal defied the direct orders of his commander, who was Capt Hassan Qasmullah. The captain placed the corporal under detention, but it was not long until the brigadier heard of the matter. He was angry and threatened the captain; he vowed to demote him to corporal!

The stories are many and varied, including that famous fight between Brig Gen Muhammad al-Ma'mun Ayyub and Brig Ibrahim Muhammad al-Hasan, of the previous story. He fought with Brig al-Ma'mun over cement and bricks. Officers of the armaments branch witnessed that fight, which developed into name-calling, abuse and blows with brick molds. Note that both were wearing uniforms. The fight ended in Brig al-Hasan's favor. Brig al-Ma'mun was considered crazy, in accordance with a previous medical decision, and he was pensioned off!

'Abd al-Majid and the Officers

A large group of army officers were in the infantry company commanders course in Karra, when a new regulation was issued which made those officers extremely

upset, since it was an infringement to their rights. They met with the commander of the school, Brig Tahir Muhammad 'Uthman to discuss that regulation.

After the discussion, the school commander contacted Lt Gen 'Abd al-Majid Khalil, the minister of defense, who arrived on the following day by helicopter. He met with all the officers, in the presence of the school commander and the students of the class, who were all of the rank of captain.

Despite the fact that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss the articles of that regulation, 'Abd al-Majid Khalil began to abuse and vilify the officers, using the most inappropriate terms, including describing them as "malingerers." When the affair grew more heated, the senior officer in the course rose to remind his excellency the minister that the subject was the regulation, that there was no cause for abuse and vilification, and that it would be better to respond to the officers' inquiries. However, his excellency the minister of defense replied: "Sit down, you jackass! I know you. You talk about me in your meetings and say that I am queer! The army does not need any officer like you. Write your resignation from service and I will accept it."

After saying these words, Lt Gen 'Abd al-Majid angrily left without attending to the principal matter. Once more, this incident became the subject of derision among the army officers who have come to understand that there is no exemplary leader in today's Sudanese army, especially since the best officers and leaders have been retired or had their services dispensed with or dismissed without any reasons being given.

This is now prevalent. There is no discipline in the army and no allegiance except to individuals. No one knows whether he will continue in his position tomorrow, or whether he will be dismissed from service for reasons which he does not and will not ever know. It is currently unfortunate that officers, any officers, can receive a letter marked secret and personal, containing that well-known phrase: "The commander-in-chief has dispensed with your services. He thanks you and wishes you well in public life."

Because of the length of this article, the remainder will be in the next edition.

[9 Nov 81 pp 64-65]

[Text] We shall continue to enumerate stories about the scandals of Numayri's army, that army that has been transformed under his regime into a center for corruption, classism and formalism. It has been kept from its duty to defend the nation and from its national and pan-Arab goals.

Today we shall tell you about another of the incidents of corruption within the military establishment. We will discuss the area of postings and overseas missions.

The custom was to send officers to work in Arab countries, such as Kuwait, Abu Dhabi, Bahrain, etc. The period of duty was a maximum of 2 years. Naturally, these missions were transformed into luxury posts for senior officers, based on personal and family connections, not on ability or logical priorities. The selection of this officer or that is done in a specific agreement with the selection officials.

The usual practice is that after an officer is nominated, and when he arrives at the new post, he sends a refrigerator and a 23-inch television set to the officer concerned. If the posted officer wishes, he can renew his tour of duty. The price would probably be a fast car, as was done during the days of Lt Gen al-Fatih Basharah. Here is a true story whose hero is Major 'A. Am A., who was denied his opportunity for a posting, despite his better qualifications as an operations and training officer, because he did not know the rules of the game.

Major 'A. protested in writing to the commander-in-chief, a matter which got him transferred to the western headquarters in al-Fashir, as punishment for his complaining. The matter did not end there; on the contrary, systematic oppression was practiced against him. He was divested of a piece of land that he had claim to, because he was married and had four children. The major again protested in writing to the minister of defense, and demanded that his resignation be accepted. His name was put on the list of officers going on the pilgrimage, in order to appease him and insure his health, especially since the name of the officer, who was sent to an Arab country instead of him, was known to have a close connection with al-Rashid al-Tahir Bakr.

Treatment of Officers

As for scandals in the Medical Corps, they are commonplace. The matter has reached the point that senior officer specialists refuse to treat difficult cases for wives of junior officers and ncos. Treatment is limited to wives of colonels and above, without regard to human priorities imposed by the condition of the patient.

Everyone knows the story of Major F. 'A. who wanted treatment for his sister, whom he was caring for and who was under his sponsorship. She suffered from a heart ailment and required a valve operation. When the military commission decided to send her for treatment abroad, the Ministry of Defense and the commander-in-chief refused to authorize the money required, because a wife or sister of a major were not authorized or expenditures for treatment except within narrow constraints. As for a brigadier or colonel's wife, treatment for her is unlimited, so long as that brigadier or colonel goes along with the bosses and does not disagree with them. That happened to a colonel who had approval for one of his brothers' treatment--he was paralyzed. During the treatment, this colonel was pensioned off, and the Ministry of Defense subtracted the full costs of the treatment from his pension. What was left was inadequate for his basic needs.

There are many sad stories, too numerous to count, including treatment of civilians referred from private clinics to military doctors, such as Dr 'A. S. and Dr M. K., close friends of the president, and others close to the government, who were accustomed to referring their patients to have x-rays taken in Medical Corps hospitals, in exchange for paying the cost of private clinics.

These are stories well-known to all; there is no need to discuss or document them.

Financial Affairs

There is an important branch which became notorious for a series of strange and extraordinary events, proving the extent of carelessness and lack of discipline.

This is the Financial Affairs Branch. One of its duties is to facilitate payment of pensions to retired officers, ncos, and enlisted men, and to facilitate special loans for building, etc.

We shall discuss today the process of disbursing entitlements and pensions. We can say from experience that the officer in charge was accustomed to not paying the entitlements of soldiers and ncos for at least 7 months, unless he obtained a promise from the individual concerned that he would pay him "a fee" from his entitlement.

As for retired and pensioned-off officers, they are always at the mercy of those who have no mercy. A full year can pass while they try to get their entitlements. Many times a crowd of soldiers and officers has gathered in front of GHQ, demanding to meet with Numayri personally, in order to tell him their complaints about that officer in charge of the Financial Branch, who openly demands from them his share of their pensions. Several officials met with them and promised them better things. They told them that they would investigate the matter and take the necessary action. Days passed without any sign of the investigation's results. That officer is still at his post, playing his game of human torture and taking his share of their entitlements.

The remainder of this report, or tragedy, will appear in a future issue.

[16 Nov 81 pp 60-61]

[Text] The army has become like a body that has become torn into scattered, disconnected pieces, or rather, it has lost confidence in itself and has neglected its national duty. Very regrettably, it has been transformed into militias or battalions, each loyal to the minister of defense. It has changed with its changing, which has made it subject to bad forms of deterioration and collapse. It has become weak and lost its effectiveness due to the commanders' preoccupation with their own personal interests, which are a far cry from the sacred duty entrusted to them. Recently, cases of pensioning off and dismissal from service, without cause or advance notice and without the slightest discussion, have increased. All this is subject to personal malice and is a far cry from the public interest. Next came fiscal corruption and exploitation of public funds, as occurred during the time of Maj Gen 'A. a. Kh., not to mention the appointments based on friendship and personal relationships, such as appointing football players, or friends of the clique, such as Lt Col A. Z., Col B. A., and Col H. A. Furthermore, there is the extraordinary promotions of enlisted men to officers in order to ensure their loyalty, without regard to planning or qualifications. This has affected the general level of discipline and control, as well as military performance in general.

Additionally, pensioning off qualified and competent officers has reduced the efficiency and general level of training in the army.

There is the story of Lt Col "'Ismat", who has written a number of valuable books, which demonstrate his unceasing efforts to promote military history. Lt Col 'Ismat earned a hideous punishment for this. Lt Gen 'Abd al-Majid, who at that time was a brigadier and director of the Combat Training Branch, rewarded him with 50 pounds, no more, and recommended his transfer to the Southern Command, since one

could not find a more suitable climate for writing. Lt Gen 'Abd al-Majid demonstrated that he would not encourage any earnest initiatives, and that he considered Lt Col 'Ismat a danger that threatened his theories and personal life. He saw himself as the sole officer of any genius, and accordingly, he killed off all initiative and ambition, proving that attending universities and higher institutes were officially forbidden by the Ministry of Defense after Lt Gen 'Abd al-Majid took over control. He took great delight in exercising his well-known authority, with regard to killing the spirit of research within the ranks of army officers.

All that is left to say is that Lt Col 'Ismat was dismissed from service.

Training and Qualification

Bad Training and limited qualifications reached a point which was clearly revealed in the infamous "Shaytan" maneuvers and for which the best army officers gave their lives. We still remember the martyrs Lt Col 'Abdullah Sa'id and Maj Asamah al-Tajani, who were two of the best fighter pilots, and others by the score. Among them was Col (Pilot) 'Uthman Idris, who was killed in his airplane at Port Sudan, after refusing to take off, because he knew that it had flown more than the prescribed number of hours. However, he was forced to fly. He had complained that he had not been trained long enough, and even now almost everyone suffers from a lack of adequate training to qualify them to fly. In addition, there is the gross neglect embodied in the story of Captain 'Izzat's death, who was a victim of the chaos and mis-management that was responsible for a lack of ground to air communications equipment in order to determine flight direction and ground target locations for "Shaytan."

This is an example of the state of improvization within the Air Corps, which ultimately led to unfortunate consequences, and victimized the best abilities without any punishment to those who caused it.

Political Corruption

Political corruption has worsened until it is deep with the armed forces. It causes chaos and a lack of discipline and control, as well as theft, embezzlement and speculation with public funds.

At the "drivers" school at al-Shandi, Lt Col 'A. S. embezzled 75,000 pounds in a period of 7 years, and was given a marvelous sentence; he was given retirement!

In the army convoys that helped to transport foodstuffs and supplies from the capital to western Sudan, three officers with the rank of Lt Col were accused of stealing 70,000 pounds. One of the three officers was Lt Col A. 'A. He was also only pensioned off.

Chaos was also visible in the military intelligence branch, which is now considered tantamount to a "private sector," because certain kinds of officers have astonishing privileges. This branch needs stopping. It is a kingdom, in which any officer cannot be transferred from place to place without its consent and justification. All this makes the branch detested by army officers, and only a group of pampered officers will join it, such as M. A. S., well known for his activities with

several officers who prefer one kind of behavior...improper. One of them, Major 'A. R. fired his pistol at an unarmed citizen, after a fight in which the citizen was defending his honor. The kingdom of the intelligence branch is still practicing many forms of licentiousness, commercialism, influence-peddling, buying and selling under the protection of their immunity from their generous branch.

If we are satisfied with this collection of tales of the scandals within the Numayri regime's army, the matter has a summation, which we will present in the next edition.

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POLISARIO OFFICIAL INTERVIEWED IN LUANDA

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 9 Dec 81 p 6

[Interview with Ali Mahmoud Moustapha, head of the POLISARIO Front delegation to the 6-9 Afro-Arab Conference in Luanda, by Achille Lollo and Filomeno Manacas]

[Text] Due to the importance of the question of Western Sahara being debated by the political commission of the Afro-Arab Conference which started at the 10 December Movie Theater on Sunday, we contacted Ali Mahmoud Moustapha, who is also the health minister of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic [SDAR]. This interview not only deals with the situation in Western Sahara, the prospects which military victories of the POLISARIO Front fighters open for the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic, but also raises pertinent questions which, concerning the SDAR, are to be debated at the Afro-Arab Conference.

[Question] What opportunity was opened for the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic after the Guelta Zemmour battle?

[Answer] The victorious operations of Guelta Zemmour and Bilizaran are no more than the military operations that preceded them.

The only difference is that these operations, especially the Guelta Zemmour, were characterized by their resounding military victory, because of the strategic importance of these places to the expansionist troops of the Moroccan regime. For us, Guelta Zemmour was an advanced post which contained Moroccan regiments and a very sophisticated arms arsenal.

So the fighters of the POLISARIO Front, courageous guerrillas of our liberation army, decided to stage an operation to liquidate and totally eliminate this supply center located on our territory.

In the last analysis, the operation was carried out and the results were spectacular because in one single operation 5 planes, 3 F-5's, of which 1 is of the most sophisticated models; 1 C-130 troop transport plane which the Moroccans used for espionage, orientation and direction of operations and 1 helicopter transporting a team composed of 20 or 30 specialized weapons repair experts were eliminated.

Therefore, this operation was an impressive success for us because it played the role of a bulwark, because it was a city which gave cover to others, such as Samara, and also was the cover for Bou Cra. It was also a strategic place as it was 10 or 15 km from Mauritania and thus also had a role in exerting pressure on that country.

Our fighters decided to liberate it and now the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic flag flies over the areas of Guelta Zemmour and Bir Zharau.

It is obvious that other operations will follow this one. At the present time Moroccan agents are having difficulties in a very limited area in the center of the so-called "useful triangle" surrounded by barriers of dunes and mined fields. The Moroccan army is behind this barrier. This line, this new tactic, used by the Moroccans in line with the guidelines of American, French, South African and Israeli advisers who are with them, does not prevent the fighters of the POLISARIO Front from carrying out operations, because operations are being conducted within this "triangle," inside this barrier: Guelta Zemmour and Bou Cra. Therefore, the operations will continue and we feel that the Moroccan army is in a catastrophic situation. On the one hand, the losses it suffered are a great factor. Another factor is the morale, because it is an army in which some soldiers spend much time on the sands of the Sahara, and even without news from their families, and without receiving the minimum monthly wages. This is on the one hand.

On the other hand, we also have the determination and resolution of the courageous fighters of the POLISARIO Front who have decided to liberate the entire territory of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic.

[Question] Morocco and its allies are trying to gain time which is why they used the question of the referendum also envisaging to push the SDAR at the Arab or African level. Which are now the maneuvers directed against the SDAR?

[Answer] On our continent Morocco is known by its maneuvers and its challenge to everything that is African. It even called, if you remember, the OAU [Organization of African Unity] summit, the "Tau-tau summit." It even defied and disregarded the resolutions adopted by international institutions, the African ones and those of the United Nations.

It is understood that the maneuvers by Morocco serve only to gain time, we agree with you. However, the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic is recognized by almost 50 states of the world. I believe that 26 are African states. Therefore we can say that the majority of the African states are in solidarity with the cause of the Saharan people and support the admission of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic into the Organization of African Unity.

The maneuvers are an attempt to put aside the problem for a time and gain time. The allies and the imperialists and Morocco want to gain time to reach what the North Americans call a situation of equilibrium, that is, when they are in a position of strength for negotiations.

We support fully the resolutions taken at the OAU and at the United Nations. The international organizations ask the Kingdom of Morocco, demand that the Kingdom of Morocco abandon the Saharan territory and leave the Saharan problems within

their true framework because, in the last analysis, it is a purely and simply a problem of decolonization. Therefore, according to the adopted resolutions, the international community supports them and the Kingdom of Morocco has no other way out than to accept and apply them.

We are satisfied with the support given us by our African brothers and agree with the determination and justice imposed by the Organization of African Unity which stated that the problem of Sahara is a problem of decolonization. It is evident that the Kingdom of Morocco did not have to do anything but obey and accept reality which is the just and true struggle of the Saharan people, of this people who carried out a heroic struggle against Spanish colonialism and who now face a new form of colonization and domination.

[Question] What is your opinion of this conference?

[Answer] We are very proud and pleased to come to Angola, because this conference is being held on a territory whose people gave their blood and struggled and gave a lesson to oppressed people that an armed struggle is the best path for liberation.

Therefore, the POLISARIO Front feels that armed struggle is the best way for achieving freedom of peoples, it is the justice of any revolutionary fighter.

I believe that a conference of this type, where there are liberation movements, progressive parties and governments present, should discuss liberation. One should not ask that this or that problem be overlooked because the struggle is the same, the objectives are common, the enemy is the same.

I wish to stress here that the POLISARIO Front at the plenary session gave its full and unconditional support to all peoples, without any discrimination.

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Feb 4, 1982